

**North Beach area state parks  
Stage One  
Issues from Correspondence**

March 30, 2008

The purpose of stage one is to understand your hopes and concerns. This helps the planning team get a sense of the range and type of issues it must consider through the planning process. Comments will also be used to determine environmental impacts consistent with State Environmental Policy Act.

These comments are from correspondence received by March 30. We have responded to all the correspondence, and where there were specific questions, an answer was provided. Correspondence that simply asked to be included in the process or to thank us for asking for comments, are not included in the table. Verbatim comments about each state park are in column one with the names and contact information removed. Changes to the comments were sometimes made to decrease spacing.

We have attempted to group issues as follows:

*State Park or Property*  
*Recreational, Natural or Cultural Issue*  
*Main idea of the comment*

We may have made mistakes. If you see your comment grouped with other comments that do not make sense to you, please contact Brian Hovis.

Additional written comments (E-mail preferred) are welcome. Comments received before April 15, 2009 will be shared with the planning team before its next meeting.

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Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
What land use planning is the WSP considering for Ocean City, Pacific Beach, G-P and Damon Point? The road repaired in D-P would be a good idea.....for biking...please keep me the mailing list for all stages for NB area state parks. Thank you.	Damon Point Recreational - Public access
The vault toilet is practically in the water and pretty soon there will be no access at Damon Point. What does the state have in mind?	Damon Point Recreational - Public access
My ideas are not new, and in fact, are in line with Parks Manager, Jim Schmidt, about acquiring the Ghost Forest for preservation and enjoyment by the public. In addition, I would like to see a board walk and a human powered boat launch at the edge of Griffith Priday State Park, and the Copalis River next to Bender Rd. I understand that asking for funds for these projects is not likely, however, if you lack funds for normal Park Maintenance, or other Park issues, I for one would love to volunteer myself. I am sure there are other residents in the area that would volunteer for trash pick up, maintenance, small repairs, etc. I am sure you could come up with a long list. The North Beach Community Improvement Association provided food for the beach cleaners last April, and we would like to assist in this years beach clean up as well, In some capacity. Please consider volunteers before closing any of the Parks in North Beach.	Griffith-Priday – Natural - Preservation  Griffith-Priday – Recreational - Future development
Could there be a highway pull-out so people can see the view from points along the highway on the Griffith-Priday property?	Griffith-Priday – Recreational - Future development
I will be unable to attend the meeting on the 18th about the planning for the North Beach Parks. I own property in Copalis Beach and in your planning I would like you to consider <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Griffiths-Priday Park is a wonderful area to explore. It would be nice to see a camping area established there - for both tents and full hook-up trailers. - Copalis Beach doesn't have a lot for tourists right now.</li> <li>If the Griffiths-Priday Park is built up that might enable a grocery store to be rebuilt and opened up...</li> <li>This could increase the economy and growth to the Copalis Beach area -</li> </ul> Thank you and please keep me informed about the progress of your workshop.	Griffith-Priday – Recreational - Future development

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>First of all -- thank-you so much for sending us the postcard informing us of the upcoming meeting and asking for our feedback. Our home in Copalis Beach is our "second home" so unfortunately we will not be able to attend the meeting. I have visited the website and am very interested in your project -- please keep us on your list.</p> <p>As a child, I was raised with a "cabin". It had always been my dream to have one at the ocean within walking distance of the beach. My husband and I are not rich -- he is a high school orchestra teacher and I work part-time as a high school math tutor. When we got the call in the fall of 1991 that an affordable cabin was available in Copalis on Copalis Lane, we jumped at the chance to own it. We have a wonderful view of the Copalis River and, at the time of purchase, we were within walking distance of the beach via Griffiths-Priday State Park.</p> <p>Now, due to change in the course of the River and natural erosion, the path to the beach at Griffiths-Priday State Park no longer exists. In order to get to the beach we either drive up to Roosevelt Beach or we drive down to Ocean City. We would LOVE to see a bridge built at Griffiths-Priday so that access to the beach is once more available. The bridge at the beach access immediately south of Griffiths-Priday seems perfect. It is sturdy, easy to walk on AND in the case of an emergency on the beach, emergency vehicles can drive over the bridge as well. It seems like a sturdy bridge would make Griffiths-Priday much more user friendly.</p> <p>Thanks again for mailing us the postcard. Have a great meeting on Wednesday night.</p>	<p>Griffith-Priday Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Future development</li></ul>
<p>A kayak launch site would make a nice improvement to the park.</p>	<p>Griffith-Priday Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Future development</li></ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Here are a few comments from me and a friend, both of whom use the North Beach area.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Camping accommodations at all of the North Beach parks seem adequate to us. Additional camping areas at Griffiths-Priddy <u>should not</u> be constructed.</li> <li>2) All bathrooms at Griffiths-Priddy should be unlocked during all daylight hours. There have been occasions where only one or two stalls are available and a 15 person line develops. Signs should be placed at each access point where there are restrooms present informing folks that there are no restrooms on the beach, so “go here, go now” instead of on the beach/dunes.</li> <li>3) Many of us pick up trash off the beaches and the quantity that a family can pick up in only an hour can be sizable. Large garbage bins should be made available at all beach access points for placing this trash in. To date we’ve been hauling it home in the back of the truck, but other friends that come out are not as willing (as in not at all) to haul home a big bag of trash in their cars or SUVs. It’s likely that personal garbage will also end up in the bins, but the beaches would hopefully be cleaner; especially if there was a nice big sign that informed everyone of the States beach cleanup plan.</li> <li>4) Keep dog leash laws as relaxed as possible. If there are lots of people on the beach then it makes sense to have dogs leashed or away from people. However, there are times when I am the only person for miles and don’t feel I should be subject to the threat of a ticket for letting the dog run when no one is around. Maybe something like a 20 person rule...If you are walking the dog past more than 20 people, then you need a leash.</li> <li>5) Keep it simple....no more park-related development/structures/huts on the beach!</li> </ol> <p>That’s all I can think of right now...more if we come up with it.</p>	<p>Griffith-Priddy Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> <li>- Operations</li> </ul> <p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Operations</li> </ul> <p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pets</li> </ul> <p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I am sorry I can not attend your meeting but I would like to add a couple of comments.</p> <p>First, I am very happy with most of our state parks. I would request that as many sites as possible have power connection at the very least. I use a CPAP machine to sleep and need dependable power. The other things on my wish list is for a little more space between sites for privacy and the most natural feeling. I would rather have a few less sites rather than be right on top of each other, smelling their bacon and fried fish.</p> <p>Another area is in group sites for Boy Scouts and similar groups. The more the better, and again at least minimal access to power would be a great benefit for some of us. Thank you for your good work.</p>	<p>North Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>I have another wish for the long term use of the Parks in the North Beach area. I would like to see the Parks as rustic as possible, instead of a “Class 5” Park, I would like to see them as “Class 2”. Camping should be as primitive as possible, in my judgment. Mostly tents, water, and sanitary services. Let the RV crowd go to RV parks. Would love to hear the wind in the trees instead of the constant drone of generators! And rock music.. Anyway, that’s more input from me. I am most likely a minority in this opinion of High Tech everything! Thanks for listening, and Thanks for the opportunity to provide input!</p>	<p>North Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>We only have a couple of comments, since we cannot attend the meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We absolutely LOVE RV’ing at State Parks vs. privately owned RV parks. We love the rustic environment, space, privacy between the campsites, trees. Having room for a tent in case our children want to join us.</li> <li>2. Parks need to be updated/built at RV sites to make the cement pads larger and more level.</li> <li>3. We need more Parks!!!!!! When we went on-line in January to make reservations for the year, most parks were already booked for most of the year! ☹ thanks for your efforts! You hold the future of camping/RV’ing in your hands!</li> </ol>	<p>North Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>We will not be able to attend the workshop, but would like to have an update on the outcome. We are State Parks camping people and any improvements to or addition to is so welcomed. Thank you for your message and please keep us on your list.</p>	<p>North Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>The North Beach is one of our favorite Spring &amp; Fall locations to stay and watch for shorebirds. The combination of woods and beach at many of the parks is ideal for a peaceful stay.</p>	<p>North Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>

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I feel this is extremely important and if there is anyway that I can be of assistance, please let me know. I am an Environmental Horticulture student at Lake Washington Technical College and the environment is so important to me. I am actively participating in a movement to save and preserve Lake Stickney, a very small lake and my neighborhood. State Parks are one way of preserving what may be the only wilderness for our future generations. I am so pleased to hear that this work is continuing on.	North Beach Recreational - Future development
There should be more yurts in the area like Grayland.	North Beach Recreational - Future development
Thank you for your message. We love camping in these parks, and using the beach, and nearby hiking trails. We like the full hookups, fire rings, and picnic tables. Some would benefit from nicer restrooms, but in general they seem to be in ok shape. It is important to keep them open and at a reasonable price.	North Beach Recreational - Future development
They should include campsites for RV's that have utilities, privacy and be close to the beach with a view of the ocean. We use Grayland Beach campground. That park should be your one to copy. I would like to also see cable TV be something that we could pay a fee to use. That would cover your cost over time. You should also copy Oregon State Parks website and how they offer several photos of the campground and sites. Way more than Washington State Parks offers.	North Beach Recreational - Future development
Very Interested, Ocean Shores area really needs another state park for camping. Keep me up to date. Thank you,	North Beach Recreational - Future development
We live in Wa State and several times each year our family and friends stay in the state camp grounds. I wanted to make sure that our voice got heard. The parks in these areas are very important to our family and are a great asset to Wa State recreation. Please continue them and further the expansion of them.	North Beach Recreational - Future development
How can the state parks work with the "Hidden Coast" Scenic Byway grant to make improvements?	North Beach Recreational - Future development

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Got it. We are regular visitors to Ocean City S.P. One thing we wish was not the case (at least during the winter) with regards to this park: too much flooding. Future parks should probably be built on slightly higher ground. Copalis is a beautiful area, with no State Park right? How abouts building one up there if that is indeed the case. I have stayed at the military installation up near there and found it to be a nice beach. That's all I can think of right now. Best wishes in the planning process!</p>	<p>Ocean City Natural</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Flooding</li> </ul>
<p>2 years ago my family (mostly from Oregon) reserved the group camp area at Ocean City state park. We had a nice time, but the mosquitos were so very bad from the nearby swamp that we will never go back. Please please be sure that you remove all insects from state parks. They also need more group camp areas. It seems like most state parks usually only have one group site available.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Integrated pest management</li> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>As you can probably guess, I'm retired and have time to reply to your email. My wife and I stayed at Ocean Shores State Park last year. In our opinion, it was in below average condition. I know that the State and the Country are in financial difficulties so maybe nothing can be done to make improvements. However, if there is some money in the State Parks budget for maintenance at Ocean Shores, we feel that the road system needs resurfacing and some of the sites, which have unpaved RV parking spaces, were very muddy and almost inaccessible. Paving those parking spaces would be ideal. If that is not financially possible, then a load of gravel would be very helpful. The park appeared to have been heavily used so something needs to be done soon or it will deteriorate further and eventually cost a lot more money than just maintenance. It will have to be totally rehabilitated or closed. We haven't been to the state park at Pacific Beach for 30 years! We remember what it was like then. Hopefully, it's been modernized since then.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>Can Ocean City be connected to the city trail that passes behind the high school?</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trails</li> </ul>
<p>Develop a trail in Ocean City, if possible.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trails</li> </ul>
<p>Dear Mr. Hovis, We love the North Beach Parks and Winter and early Spring are some of our favorite times to bring our RV over. We do wish the Westport site were totally open and that some of the trails there and at the O.S area had boardwalks over the seriously deep and muddy areas. Bird lists for all the parks would be most helpful as would guided tours of usual sightings.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trails</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Hi Brian. All I can suggest is maybe have more parks with full hook-ups. I will get back to you with more ideas. Also, maybe instead of free camping for the disabled, half price sounds good to me. I am a disabled vet and would be willing to pay half price.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>I am happy that you ask for my opinion. We absolutely enjoy Ocean Beach State Park. However it would really be nice to have more full hook-ups for our motor home. It is 31 ft long. I usually make my reservations as soon as they can be made to ensure that we get a hook-up. We used to never be able to use this park because we can't get there on the weekend early enough to get a site with a hook-up. Even on the weekends during the winter it is hard to get a dry campsite. Also maybe a walk to the beach with more than one bridge across the creek. Thanks so much for allowing me to give you my input.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>I am not able to attend the workshop on March 18, but I have a comment regarding the park we stayed at last summer. We stayed at Ocean Shores state park and the site was nice but very shady. We would have liked to stay in another site that would have had a bit more sun to it. It didnt seem like there were many sites available and those that we picked using the online reservation system that were more sunny were not available even though when we went to our site there were several that were empty even though they said online that they were not available.</p> <p>We did have a great time during our stay even though it rained very heavily on the day before we were to leave and so we decided to leave early. Apparently we were camped by a water area (not the ocean) and there was a small problem with mosquitos.</p> <p>We will most likely stay again sometime this summer hopefully staying in a sunnier spot and not getting any rain!!! We thought the showers were good, although a little expensive and the bathrooms were clean.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul> <p>Ocean City Natural</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Integrated pest management</li> </ul>
<p>I do not live in the area, so unable to attend the meeting on the 18th. Will try to look up the website you mentioned. I think the area is beautiful, and certainly hope they can maintain the park, and maybe expand the facilities some. Thank you</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>I have only used the RV Park at Ocean City one time so my experience is limited. This was late last summer/fall. I found the park to be quiet and relaxing with all the amenities a "camper" might need, Ocean Shores being nearby was convenient for supplies and groceries.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>



Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
I have visited this park a handful of times and camped there one time. I had a very good experience. It has easy access to the beach, and well kept campsites. My only concern in choosing a campsite was that there is too much shade in many of them, but I know that the trees help maintain privacy. I hope that this park will be kept open and maintained for future use.	Ocean City Recreational - Future development
I spend a great deal of time at Wa state parks and really enjoy them. However, the first thing that comes to mind is that most if not all have no playgrounds for my kids. That would be my only comment. Thanks	Ocean City Recreational - Future development
In response to your inquiry requesting comments on North Beach State Parks. My family and I have camped at Ocean City State Park for the past 5 summers. For the most part we have found the campground to be in good to fair condition, but, over the years have found the condition of the campsites to be deteriorating. The campground layout itself is great. We would book about 4-5 spaces together in Loop #4, (the utility loop), for a yearly family reunion the second weekend in August of each year. What needs improvement is the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* More sites with full hook-ups, (power, water, sewer)</li> <li>* Power at 30 amps is still workable, (being next to the ocean)</li> <li>* Current utility post could use updating</li> <li>* Campground access roads and campsite pads need to be repaved</li> <li>* Level out campsite pad paved area as much as possible</li> <li>* Build-up tent areas in each campsite so they are higher than the surrounding area to keep tent floors from getting wet</li> <li>* Re-seed the grass areas to cut down on the amount of dirt, (mud)</li> <li>* Put in recycle containers</li> </ul> Thank you for the opportunity to provide input. Please let me know if you have any questions.	Ocean City Recreational - Future development
My only interest would to make more “pull through” sites. Having a large 5 <sup>th</sup> wheel these sites make a big difference. Thank you.	Ocean City Recreational - Future development
Better electricity at Ocean City would be nice.	Ocean City Recreational - Future development

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Our family has camped at Ocean City State Park many times, in all of the loops. We are attracted to this camping park because it contains more sheltered sites for our tents than Pacific Beach. We have not visited the day use parks. We like the way the park is operated and maintained. We have never had excessive noise issues, and have never had to complain about anything at Ocean City.</p> <p>My recommendation for Pacific Beach state park would be to build a sheltered picnic area. To my knowledge there is no shelter at the present time. I am interested in seeing the report before it is given to the commission. Is that possible?</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul> <p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>Please keep me on the distribution list for the North Beach area state parks. I regularly camp at Ocean City and Pacific Beach. I believe that the camping area at Ocean City need to be redone to reflect the increased number of people who camp in recreational vehicles. The hook up loop is very prone to flooding and the electrical system needs to be upgraded. I believe that this park could be redone in a similar manner to Grayland. This should bring in more campers year round and provide more needed revenue. I also think a good addition would be a kitchen-meeting building that could be rented out to groups. These are very prevalent in Oregon state parks. I know personally, I am involved in a group that is always looking for somewhere we can camp year round that has these facilities. We end up going to private parks when we would rather support the state parks system. Thank you for your consideration of my comments. I have a soft spot in my heart for the state parks system. Actually, my first job was working for headquarters in 1974.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul> <p>Ocean City Natural</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Flooding</li> </ul>
<p>Sorry this reply is so late, please keep me on you listing.</p> <p>My comments are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I do not know if anything can be done about it, but Ocean City has flooding issues at many of the sites.</li> <li>2. More full utility sites would be nice.</li> </ol>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul> <p>Ocean City Natural</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Flooding</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Thank you for sending us this note. We love the state park in Ocean Shores, it will always be our favorite place to camp. I am not sure what kind of comments and such you need from us, we can't be there on the 18th.</p> <p>I do know that our biggest problem is being able to get a place to camp. Neither one of us can plan 9-10 months ahead of time, by the time we can even think about reserving, all of the spots are already gone. This is very frustrating, especially when we love your park so much. My husband is a firefighter and frequently goes out of state on wildland fires, it is hard to plan camping around that. :)</p> <p>Anyway, anything that you could do to try to free up full hook up sites closer to summer, so we wouldn't have to book so far out would be great, I know that it probably can't be done, but, honestly, that is the only drawback we have ever seen. You guys rock!!!!</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>Thank you for your email about the North Beach area State Parks. We enjoy the North Beach Parks very much.</p> <p>Our favorite is <b><u>Ocean City State Park</u></b>. We love being close to the beach and love the trails and the beauty of the park. The Park is always spotless and kept clean and neat for everyone to enjoy. The new welcome building and gift shop has added a lot to the park. We appreciate the cleanliness of the restrooms and showers. For us, cleanliness is very important. The Ocean City State Park Staff are always very professional, courteous, friendly and helpful. It makes our trip to the State Park a real enjoyment. Please keep us informed of updates for the Park. Thank you again for your email.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>Washington state parks are awesome. My husband and I spent time in our travel trailer last year in two of the ocean parks. Ocean Shores was nice in many ways, but had a huge problem with standing water in many of the sites. Cape Disappointment was fabulous. We have scheduled a return in October of this year. I am unable to attend the meeting but would like to be kept updated.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>We like to take our travel trailer to Ocean City State Park. It's a very nice place. I like the pull-through sites because they are a bit more private and easier to navigate. It's nice to be able to bring a 26' trailer- I noticed that the Olympic National Park sites are limited to 21'. I can't think of anything that would improve our experience except that it would be nice if 50 amp service was available at the full-service RV sites.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>We often go to Ocean City State Park in the Spring. It is one of our favorite state parks, being so close to Ocean Shores. The park is clean and well-run. We are doing something different this spring, so unfortunately will not be visiting this park. We once stayed at Pacific Beach State Park. We didn't like this park at all--it was so close to town, hardly any trees, not much of a beach. I doubt we will visit that park again.</p> <p>Is Grayland Beach one of the parks in the North Beach area? We love that park. It's great for bike riding, love the beach. Let me know if there is anything specific you would like in terms of comments.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>We would like to see more full hook up sites with longer parking pads like Grayland state park also some pull through sites to better access longer motor homes and trailers along with some road improvements also some yurts and more handicap camping and wheel chair access areas. we think that this would get more people out camping and also keep the parks full of campers that wont need to start there generators to make power for cooking meals. we do like to use as many state parks as we can through out the whole year. thanks for your time and effort I hope that these comments will help you to make the parks more enjoyable for all campers.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>We love the North Beach area and would appreciate a park with full hook-ups in that area. Currently we are staying at Ocean City which is beautiful but not far enough north. We appreciate all the beautiful Washington state parks.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>When I use the north beach state parks, particularly ocean city state park, I use my class A motorhome. I like the convenience of having water, sewer and electric hookups and hope it will stay that way. The only real problem I see is drainage, during the wet season, which is almost all the time here, there are some sites in the hookup loop that are unusable and unfortunately we don't realize this till after we have booked the site and arrived. The staff at ocean city state park have always been very helpful when this happens, and help us find a drier site. I hope this information has been helpful.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul> <p>Ocean City Natural</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Flooding</li> </ul>
<p>Yes, I am interested in our State Parks. When doing upgrades, it would be nice, if available, to have cable tv hookups. I have no problem paying a couple \$\$'s more per night to have this service. But I do also understand that it's not available in areas where parks are. We are out of state right now, but is home in Tacoma, would attend the workshop. In our travels, Washington has done a good job with parks. Keep us informed via our email.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Yurts Swing sets Bicycle trail/bicycle rentals Outdoor program area/amphitheatre such as at Tumalo State Park, Bend, Oregon. Last time I was there was about 15 years ago--someone was presenting an educational slideshow regarding the Oregon Trail. Very interesting, until my 6-year-old dragged me away. Informed volunteers could do something like this re sea life in and around Ocean Shores; nature in and around Ocean Shores; the rainforest on the Peninsula; any other historical background relating to the Washington Territory; and the like.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul> <p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interpretive programs</li> </ul>
<p>We can't make it to the workshop but I'd like to pass on a few comments. We camp primarily at Ocean Beach park. My husband has a disability pass so we try to reserve one of the disabled sites. The spot we really like is 173. It is so much nicer than the other one. We enjoy the privacy and the size. I think the park is well maintained but I wish there wasn't so much mud. I realize it is located next to water so the ground won't be hard but a few times when we considered camping I just didn't want to have to clean the mud off everything. That being said, it is very convenient (two hours away) and it's nice to have Ocean Shores close. Thanks for including me. I hope I'll get future emails.</p>	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul> <p>Ocean City Natural</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Flooding</li> </ul>
<p>Hello. I received your interest survey on the green postcard. We live in Tacoma so we cannot easily attend meetings. We have a great interest in the new Depot project in Moclips. We have several rentals just down the road from that site and would love to keep informed about this and other parks in the area. Thank you for any information you may provide.</p>	<p>Pacific Beach – Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Depot project</li> </ul>
<p>WE Love Pacific Beach State Park and spend at least 2 weeks there every year. Our favorite spot is #17 with a super view of the ocean.</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Thanks for your card asking for comment about North Beach state parks. My wife and I have a small cottage in Pacific Beach and go to the coast regularly. One of the reasons we chose our particular location is that Pacific Beach State Park is about a 90-second walk from our front door.</p> <p>I'm one of those folks who believe that you can't have enough parks or an opportunity to engage the outdoors. If I had any other more specific comments, they would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The mixed-use nature of the Pacific Beach park seems to work well. The RV camping area seems well run and I can't recall any concerns about noise or behavior.</li> <li>- In the wintertime, we see vehicles on the beach—some driving as far as, or even across, Joe Creek. Some locals say that the rules are eased in the wintertime. If true, it's something I'd like to see tightened up. I watched a 4WD truck get stuck momentarily in the creek and worried that (1) someone was going to be injured or drown and (2) there was a heightened risk of environmental pollution should the truck turn over in the creek.</li> </ul> <p>Thanks for all you do to make the parks a great place to be.</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Operations</li> </ul> <p>Seashore Conservation Area</p> <p>Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Beach driving</li> </ul>
<p>Good Morning Brian, and thank you for the opportunity to be involved in any decision making processes. My wife and I have been coming to Pacific Beach since the early eighties and have seen many positive changes there. Frankly, we rather like it the way it is now because it fits our needs so well. The onsite facilities have improved so much, I can't imagine what needs changing except perhaps for the addition of a second building with toilets and showers. Our 36' RV backs right in on those paved slots, the tables are excellent for setting up the BBQ on and the onsite power is never a problem. Security has never been an issue and with the little stores so close, it's perfect for those forgotten items. Anyhow, Thank you for asking us to be involved and we look forward to hearing more about the future of the North Beach Parks.</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>Hello Brian, are you talking about Pacific Beach State Park? I can't attend a workshop in Ocean Shores, but I am interested. Here are my comments:</p> <p>Pacific Beach State Park has been the site of our extended family's annual camping trip for 26 years. It's a small park but it gives us what we want - a wonderful big beach, suitable for long walks by the adults and lots of playtime for the kids. Joe Creek lets the kids play in the water and float on inner tubes without the danger of the surf or undertow. We enjoy sand castle building and bonfires in the evenings. The rangers do a great job of keeping the park a happy place to be.</p> <p>It's just a relaxing, well-run place that is an integral part of our family life!</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I am grateful to have received your e-mail notice regarding North Beach area State Parks. I am very interested in the continued well being of our state parks system.</p> <p>We frequently enjoy camping at Pacific Beach S.P., we spend most holidays as well a 2 week vacation every September enjoying the kite festival and try to get there for just a weekend every chance we get. We have made many life long friends at WA State Parks, many of whom have made these family meeting places with family generations who grew up going to State Parks with there parents and now share this with their kids and grandkids. I am sure that you commonly hear these stories, but I mention them to try to relay to you that, yes, the well being of the parks system is extremely important to us.</p> <p>This article does not mention park closures although I read in the local paper that Ocean City S.P. has been added to the list of parks for possible closure. With the current economical woes and budget shortfalls are these meetings still intended to address land use, and future use? We are not familiar with the 2, day use parks, and have never camp at Ocean City S.P. we have driven through on a couple of occasions.</p> <p>As for step one of the planning process my issue and concerns are for the continued operations of all WA State Parks. If you are interested in idea inputs to help make Pacific Beach State Park one of the States "premier destinations of uncommon quality", I can only suggest making sites 1-6 serviced sites with electrical hook ups, and sites 20 through 26 have a drainage problem as the sites, as well as the road in that area flood quickly during a rain storm. I believe that Ranger Beverly does a very good job at keeping Pacific Beach State Park a great destination for park users, and she has a great working relationship with the community.</p> <p>I would be very happy to donate time, labor and any resources I have to help better any of the Grays Harbor area State Parks. Unfortunately it is impossible for me to attend the work shop meetings as it conflicts with my work schedule(2:30-10:30 p.m. M-F), I would appreciate continued updates of the workshop.</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I received your e-mail regarding North Beach state parks. I have these comments:</p> <p>There are <u>very few</u> state parks where there is a view of the water, whether rivers, lakes or ocean. I know a lot of this is because of potential sewer contamination. Pacific Beach is one where there are excellent views along the edge of the park of the ocean shore. I know there are no sewer connections, and that is just fine. Please keep the view sites open. For people that live in apartments, and have no view, it is very important to be able to come and see the water from their rig. I wish other parks offered such a nice opportunity. I feel self contained camping units are actually better for parks, near the water, than the tents. We don't go out and use the bushes, like I have seen the tenters doing. We use our own rigs for our waste. Also, it would be nice to have better views from a lot of sites in many of the state parks, and to enlarge them by cutting the over growth of tree branches. For the larger rigs, it is sometimes impossible to get into smaller sites.</p> <p>For good news: The pictures and the descriptions of the camping sites on the web site are very helpful.</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>I would like to see a full hook-up park close to the water on the North Beach area and also hear about what is being planned.</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>Not able to come for the meeting. My family totally enjoy staying at Pacific Beach. We have not had a chance to check out to much of the other places but looking forward to it. I would like to say, it would be wonderful to have water hook up for all R.V. parking. Thanks</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>Thank you for asking of input. I cannot attend the meeting, but on behalf of the 6 families who have camped at Pacific Beach State Park during the past 13 summers – we love it! The renovations to the main bathroom/shower facility are great. However, any chance of a similar facility at the north end of the park (ie., day use area, sites #1 -16)? Also, if power access could be added to all sites #1 -16 that would be a bonus. Our group enjoys this end of the park (#1-16), as it is quiet and has low, easy beach access. If power and a better bathroom facility were provided it would be wonderful for our group camping experience.</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>Thank you for your e-mail asking for comments. We have only stayed at Pacific Beach and we found that very rewarding, our future plans are to stay at the others within the next two years. Because we live on the east side (Spokane), any opportunity we get to stay at the ocean is greatly appreciated. Our stays have been at Cape Disappointment, and Pacific Beach. The state does a darn good job with their parks and I whole heartily support your efforts. Thank you</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>



Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Thanks for the opportunity to comment on you planning process. I am an annual user of Pacific Beach State Park. I come from Issaquah and stay a week in the fall. I find it to be just prefect to my needs. And do not feel that any improvements are needed. Of course I would not like to see any deterioration.</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>This probably is not what you are looking for, but here are my comments. We have only camped at the Pacific Beach State Park and have done so many times. We love it. I actually have military privileges and could use the military RV park nearby. We like the State Park better. We like the ruggedness of the North Beach area. We like being close to the ocean, trusting that if a tsunami is on the way you will let us know. Every time we have been there the park rangers have been super. The facilities are no-frills, cold, but clean. We can walk to town. It is a short drive up to the restaurant at the Base. We often drive to Ocean Shores or Lake Quinault for a day trip. It is the perfect get-a-way spot. We don't want the campground made a lot better so more people will come. It is hard enough to get a spot now. But thanks for asking.</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>The creosote pilings at Pacific Beach should be pulled out of the water and the sea-wall is eroding.</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>There should be a better welcome center at Pacific Beach.</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>We (my husband and I) would love to participate in this process as Pacific Beach is one of our favorite parks .. particularly in the winter. Since we don't live in the Ocean Shores area we would be unable to attend the meeting on the 18th but would love to hear what is discussed. In particular we enjoy the rustic feel of the beach while providing the necessary amenities required ..... bathrooms in particular. We would also enjoy seeing the sites provide water so that you wouldn't always have to worry about moving your rig every few days. I look forward to hearing back from you regarding how we can participate. Cheers!</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>We are unable to attend the planning meeting but am interested in more information about what this is all about. Are you talking about expanding the parks, updating them or what? As far as Pacific Beach goes we would love to see that park expanded and full hookups added!!!! Thank you for asking for our input.</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>We are very interested in the North Beach area state parks and have been visiting them since before they became state parks. Our particular interest is in Pacific Beach and we have watched it change and grow over the years. Consistent enforcement of the rules is an important part of continuing to have a good environment. We are unable to attend the meeting at Ocean Shores but will enjoy monitoring the reports of progress and ideas for improvement.</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Operations</li> </ul>
<p>We use pacific beach a lot during the entire year. The only change I can suggest there (because we think it is near perfect) is to have fire pits. We also use ocean city and the bathrooms/showers need remodeling. We go these parks to enjoy the ocean, walking on the beach, bicycle riding. Damon point is often covered in water (the roads) in the winter so we have not stayed there. we have never used the 4th park listed in the "north beach parks" I would guess that the roads on ocean city could use some repair but they work so if its not in the budget....we enjoy our beaches and enjoy having parks to stay at</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul> <p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul> <p>Ocean City Natural</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Roads</li> </ul>
<p>My only comments are, don't let a bunch of people set around a table and fix things that aren't in need. Don't let people grow the government for the sake of looking good themselves. We go to Pacific Beach 5 times a year and are trying to figure out how to get the 6<sup>th</sup> trip worked in. I already hear of the local officials trying to tax the local business people out of Pacific Beach. Those places currently there are part of the beauty of the Park, no need for politicians to make it into a Tourist Trap. The Park as it is-is just perfect. The people that run the office are nice. I do think one thing is out of whack however, and that is we were told that we could not fly our kites while trying to stand on a board with 8 inch wheels on it. It was said that if a child was crossing from shore to waters edge, we could hit them by accident? If that is the intelligent thinking of the day, then why are cars, horses and motor cycles allowed on the beach. I doubt a kite in the wind can achieve more than 5 to 8 miles an hour. Sounds pretty stupid, doesn't it. ANYWAY, we love Pacific Beach, don't ruin it. Signed: The Old Man and his Kite?</p>	<p>Pacific Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul> <p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sail-powered recreational vehicles</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting in Ocean Shores regarding the North Beach area state parks. However I would like to provide some input about the Pacific Beach State Park.</p> <p>First, I would like to see better enforcement of the prohibition of vehicles on the beach south of the entry that comes down from the P.B./ Moclips road. It is not pleasant to walk on the beach with vehicles carving circles in the sand. (It probably isn't very good for the creatures under the sand either.)</p> <p>Secondly, given the severe turn-down in the economy, there may be thought given to closing the Pacific Beach State Park by those persons in positions of power. To do that would amount to cutting the economic jugular vein of the small businesses in Pacific Beach.</p> <p>I do not live in Pacific Beach full-time, but I am sure that much of the business conducted in the town comes from the state park visitors. I see them walking by my Pacific Beach house, one after another, in good weather and foul. It is absolutely vital that the park remain open throughout the year. I am sure that this applies to the Ocean Shores' business community as well.</p> <p>Please keep me informed of further news concerning the parks in the North Beach area. Thank you.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Beach driving</li> </ul> <p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>
<p>There is a need for a vault toilet at the Analyde gap ocean beach approach.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>Chance a la Mer bathroom needs work.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>
<p>Could the old railroad near Moclips provide better access to the beach?</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future development</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
Why does State Parks allow beach mining on the ocean beaches?	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Beach mining
Although I have not personally taken my plane into Copalis, I have thought of it on many occasions and hope to in the near future. There are many beaches and very few airports located on them, it would be a shame to close Copalis. It sounds to me like better communication and signage would prevent mishaps like the fly in that caused this up roar. Thanks for your consideration on this matter, I stand by taking all measures to keep this airport open.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Brian, thanks again for the presentation and I strongly agree in the need to keep Ocean City State Park open. As was stated many times during the meeting, the economic benefits of the Park far exceed the income solely generated from the fees. The Park acts as a catalyst for the North Beach in bringing tourists and their dollars to this area that cannot be lost. The State needs to consider the additional revenue spent by the campers on groceries, restaurants, and other retail sales. Grays Harbor has been hit hard by the economic downturn but tourism has remained the sole strong market. Having the State close a major tourist draw for this region will be an additional hardship here. I urge the State to reconsider closing Ocean City State Park and if it is required, perform a study to determine the current total economic benefit and enjoyment the Park and its employee's give to this region.</p> <p>In regards to the Copalis Beach Airport, there continues to be a need for the State to review its long term policy. As a resident here, I can say the majority of pilots using the airport do so in a considerate manner but there remains the few that continue to abuse the area. I strongly support the continued education and information to those using the beach airport and the impact it is having on the area. The pilots must realize that the same beach that they are using as a landing field is often occupied by beachcombers, pets, or children playing in the sand. I have personally seen several near misses and safety concerns with aircraft. With hundreds of people on the beach during the recent clam digs and the planes taking off and landing in the same area, it's only a matter of time before a serious incident does occur. Safety must continue to be stressed when the pilots are landing, especially considering the often limited visibility with our local climate.</p> <p>The recently installed navigation signs have been received with mixed opinions. I have not noticed any aircraft landing within Griffiths-Friday Park south of the airport this year. However there have been repeated reports of aircraft touching down north of the signs. There also has been considerable question as to why the north sign is placed where it is. The airport border is known to stop at the rocks, and for good reason. The current sign placement now includes several rocks within the runway. We have experienced a high sand volume on the beach this winter and several of the rocks currently have low exposure and visibility on the beach. This is only setting up a dangerous hard landing for an unaware pilot.</p> <p>At the south end of the airport, the Copalis River continues to move north eroding the beach airport at its historical rate of 40'to 100'+ per year. It won't be long before the south sign is within the river.</p> <p>There must also be better consideration to the protection of the wildlife area. The beach airport is located adjacent to National Marine Sanctuary to the west, the Copalis National Wildlife Refuge, and an eagle's nest located inland to the east. Pilots need to be aware of this situation and avoid these areas.</p> <p>Hopefully with better information and education, the use of this beach airport will improve.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>My family and I would appreciate any efforts you may make to curtail the possible removal of Copalis as an airstrip. I am sure you are already aware how unique an opportunity it is to be able to legally land a small plane on the beach. I recently move back to Washington from Alaska where we could land on most any beach and not raise any hackles. It would be a horrible shame to lose the only place in the state where pilots can still legally access the ocean by landing right on the beach sand. The closure Copalis would also lead to the possibility of an increase in the number of illegal beach landings elsewhere.</p> <p>Since it seems most pilots land there simply to have a picnic lunch and a relaxing walk in the fresh ocean air while their kids play in the sand and not necessarily access the road or anywhere inland maybe a more remote location would be more appropriate. GPS indicates (mistakenly) that the strip is located South of the river and many pilots have landed there thinking they were actually at Copalis airport.</p> <p>The first time I flew there I made that mistake. What prompted me to land south of the river was not only my GPS but the number of people on the beach runway at the proper airport. I wasn't willing to assume they would move and I noticed the area south of the river was isolated from beach traffic by the river at the north end and small streams cutting across the beach to the ocean to the south with 2-3000 feet of flat, firm sand in between.</p> <p>We were visited by a tribal officer shortly after arriving who said he had a report of a plane going down. I thanked him for checking on us and assured him it wasn't that bad of a landing. When I asked him about the proper location of the airstrip he said most planes land north of the river and some land here but he didn't have a problem with it either way and agreed it made more sense to land where the possibility of pedestrians was less.</p> <p>Just an idea. Thank you for your time and support in keeping our freedoms accessible</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>As a frequent user of the most unique public airport in the united states, I protest the idea of shutting down Copalis Beach Airport!! <b>Please Keep this Airport open!</b> I understand the problems which could arise from the mixed use of this stretch of beach. I also think that most/if not all of us trained pilots can be safe and also courteous to the others while using this beach, including the homeowners which are apparently trying to eliminate another freedom from the public. Copalis Beach Airport is just too valuable to all of us to let go because of a few unhappy people! Please consider us, the flying public when a decision is made on this airport!</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>As a licensed Private Pilot in the State of Washington, I strongly oppose the move afoot to close the Copalis Beach Airport, which is unique and the only public beach runway in the lower 48 States. As a taxpayer, I can appreciate the pressures being exerted by homeowners in the vicinity of the airport to have the access shut down. I am sure those pressures on you and your department are significant.</p> <p>However, the Copalis Airport Beach access issue needs to be decided in the interest of ALL taxpayers of the State of Washington; the homeowners knew when they purchased their properties that the airport existed. They have lived with the airport's existence for many years. Simply because a few now want to see the Copalis Airport closed does not warrant you and your Department bending to their request and their pressures. I vote that you keep the current availability of Copalis open to all Washington State aviators – of which many are significant taxpayers statewide, both personally and through their businesses as well. With Warmest Regards and Best Wishes for Prosperous Times Ahead,</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>As a local pilot I have enjoyed landing at Copalis and spending time on the beach. This airport provides the only place, I know, where we can learn to land on the beach. Besides the fun of spending the day on a beach it provides us with the experience we need to save lives in the event of a emergency. We also spend a lot of money in the local communities when we are there. Pilots are good neighbors and I have never seen anything good come from closing an airport. Please keep Copalis open for general aviation.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>As a pilot and aircraft owner, I am opposed to any move that would close Copalis Airport on the coast of Washington. This unique airport is a popular destination for aviators in Oregon and Washington and beyond, and is important as an emergency landing spot for pilots transiting the area. I have landed at Copalis Airport several times, it is a delight and deserves to be protected from closing or alterations that would reduce it's utility and safety.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>As a Washington pilot, I urge you to keep open the airport at Copalis Beach, WA. Aviators from across the state and the Pacific NW utilize this airport which results in tourism and visits to businesses in the Grays Harbor area.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
As an avid pilot and celebrator of flying's freedom - I would like to express my fervent support of keeping Copalis Beach airport open and operating. Copalis represents a unique experience for all pilots who have graced its strip and stands as a landmark not only in Washington, but in the entire United States. Please do all you can to keep this American Icon open!	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
As Charter Coordinator here at Wings Aloft we have numerous requests to land on Copalis Beach State Airport by clients who want a different and unique flying experience. I feel closing this runway will negatively impact our flight school and Charter clients and take away this unique and exciting experience. I wanted to send this email to oppose the closure of Copalis Beach State Airport. I can be reached at the cell number below if you need further information	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
Brian- my name is [REDACTED] I have been a Washington pilot for almost 30 years. For many of those years, my family and I have enjoyed the ability to fly to the ocean from the Tacoma area and land right on the beach there at Copalis. We have spent many wonderful days hiking the beach, playing in the surf, beachcombing and just plain having fun at the Ocean. It takes a long time to get the sand out of the plane when we get home, but the memories Copalis Beach Airport has provided are well worth the effort. Please don't allow this unique and critical aviation resource to be taken away from us. It would be a tragedy.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
Close Copalis? Come on, it's the only Beach strip on the West Coast! I definitely oppose the closure. I'll bet the people wanting it shutdown came along after the strip was there. Happens all the time these days, move next to an airport or airstrip and then complain about airplanes. It's not as though Copalis is THAT busy of an airstrip. I know that I wouldn't move next to a pig farm if I didn't like the smell... Thanks for whatever you can do in our behalf.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
<b><u>Closing Copalis beach airstrip is a mistake.</u></b> We make low pass safety touch & goes on a regular basis. Pilot of Cessna [REDACTED]. This strip is an excellent example of multiple use Washington State Property. This is an excellent aviation resource for all GA activity and an excellent emergency strip.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport



Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Copalis airport is a unique and wonderful asset to the aviation community and Washington residents. There are few, if any, other places in the country where ocean beach access can be attained by small (and relatively quiet) aircraft. Without this access I would seldom, if ever, set foot on our ocean beaches. Time and traffic just make them too difficult to get to. Please help keep the beaches open to both aircraft and pedestrian traffic. There's no reason we can't share the resource.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>Copalis Airport is the only one like it! With thousands of miles of beach, lets save this little 2000 ft section for aviation use.Thanks for your help,</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>Copalis airport offers one of the wonderful freedoms in Northwest flying... the ability to land on a beach! This is a great thing and I think we should preserve this right. The airport doesn't get all that much use, so this seems like a non issue. The homeowners should watch airplanes landing and taking off and appreciate the wonder of flight, not complain about the noise on the beach. If they did not want to live near an airport, they should not have bought those houses! Seriously. They want their cake and to eat it too. This is BS. We need to preserve our freedoms in this country and the Copalis airport is one that should be saved.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>Copalis Beach Airport is an important destination. I urge you to help keep it open and available.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Dear Brian, it is with much concern and dismay that I have heard that there is currently a push by home owners along Copalis Beach to close the airport. I am a Licensed Pilot and long time member of the Wings Aloft Flying Club at Boeing Field. I have enjoyed flying throughout the great Pacific Northwest since 1983 and especially have enjoyed the many club "fly-ins" to Copalis Beach for spot landing contests and then great food and "beach-hanger" talk. The lessons I have learned in soft-field landing and take-off safety and proficiency from these past experiences has made me a more proficient pilot, not to mention much safer and better prepared for all types of landing and take-off surfaces. I also like the sheer joy of landing and taking off from "our" beautiful beach runway (aviators as well as beach visitors and home owners ALL have the same rights to utilize this State Beach). Any beach airport/runway is special and this particular ocean beach airport is a unique and a special gem only available to those of us pilots living in Washington State. We need to preserve this gem for the future pilots of Washington State as well. In just my 26 years of flying I have seen too many small Washington State airports close down for good (Bellevue, Issaquah and Spanaway/S-44 to name just a few). Please count this message to you as a vote to resist closure of our special gem at Copalis Beach and preserve a unique piece of Washington State Aviation history for me, my fellow Washington State Pilots and for all future aviators in Washington State as well.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>Flying to this beach is the only way I could get my daughter to go flying with me. Please don't close this treasure of aviation. It's the only beach airport left.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I am a Certified Flight Instructor in the Seattle area, and a commercial pilot. I've flown into Copalis Beach several times, and regularly talk with other instructors and pilots who know what a great location and resource Copalis beach is for pilots in our area. It is unique in the lower 48 states as a public beach airport, and is invaluable for training and also for recreation.</p> <p>This airport is by far the best way for pilots who are flying to Alaska or Canada to practice landing on a sand airstrip. Pilots can practice landing on a beach, so that in an emergency they will be far more likely to land safely. It also allows a unique recreation opportunity for flyers in our area. Please do not close this great airport.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I am a home owner in West Seattle. Basically, that is a flight path for GA aircraft leaving and returning to Boeing Field (BFI); to and from west of the field. I can understand the perspective of the home owners at Copalis Beach. Yet perhaps I am a tad biased towards the traffic as I, too, am a private pilot.</p> <p>There is a certain gracefulness to these smaller planes coming and going both around the sound and, frankly, on the beach. To see them gently landing on a beach or the water is reminiscent of by-gone days of early flight. You can not see or experience this view in everyday life. It is not the same imagery as you experience at an airport.</p> <p>With respects to safety, which too would be a concern, I don't feel the need to go too far down that path. As you consider the details of this decision, you have the safety records before you and can see the facts as they are.</p> <p>To a nearby onlooker, personal safety will be a concern. Yet it should be noted that those in the flying community are responsible individuals and would not risk the public and their own lives on risky tactics. In short, if a landing or take-off were to endanger a person or public property, the pilot would 'go around' or delay the activity.</p> <p>I hope you consider the perspective of the friends of general aviation and pilots visiting this fair beach when deciding the fate of the last public beach runway in the lower 48 states.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I am a pilot, a flight instructor and a resident of Bainbridge Island, WA. For the twenty years of my flying experience in the State of Washington, I have proudly shown my students, visitors and fellow the pilots the rich variety of flying experiences that we uniquely enjoy in Washington State. The variety ranges from mountain hide-aways (Ranger Creek, Darrington, Concrete), to island oasis (Roche Harbor, James Island, Langley), to the most unique: Copalis Beach. This is a treasure to be preserved and should be embraced by all Washington citizens -- pilots or not. If there are better ways of sharing the beach with local residents so that we maintain this privilege with respect and safety, then I, for one, am open to discussion. But please know that maintaining this unique airport is in the best interests of all of us in this great state.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I am a private pilot and a Washington resident for the past 30 years. I was excited on my first flight to Copalis beach and my wife and I enjoyed the fact that we could get to the ocean from Seattle in only 40 minutes, have a picnic lunch on the beach and get back to Seattle -- all in an afternoon.</p> <p>The beach airstrip offers a unique experience and highlights some of the benefits of living in Washington. While I understand the concerns of the nearby homeowners in the area, the airstrip is not a new development.</p> <p>You have a difficult task in balancing the use of Washington's marvelous parks system and need to consider all constituents. Please don't leave pilots and their families out of your consideration. Copalis is the only beach airstrip in the contiguous 48 state and ought to be something we are proud to have in our mix of recreation.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I am a private pilot and enjoy flying to the beach. Copalis provides a unique and fun activity for not only myself, but my family too!</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I am a private pilot and i have landed couple times at copalis state beach, and the experience was great. Just want to tell you that its a great airport i really enjoy being there . Please dont let it close.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I am a private pilot and I'm just writing in to say that i have been to Copalis a couple of times in the past and have had a memorable experience every time. It is definitely one of my favourite places to go! It is challenging, exciting &amp; exquisitely beautiful!</p> <p>I really hope that we aviators get to enjoy Copalis like we do now. It would be a shame for such a place to be closed down.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I am a private pilot in the Olympia area and oppose the closure of Copalis Airport. I have landed there often with my wife for a fantastic picnic or with my son to play on the beach. The airport provides this unique experience that cannot be replaced. Do not close this airport!</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I am aware of an effort by some with homes in the vicinity of Copalis Airport to close the airport. This would be regretful. For years, my family and friends have used this airport in order to enjoy the beach. We've had numerous picnics there and because of the airport, we've been able to enjoy the ocean within our busy schedule since it is a 30 minute flight from Seattle rather than a 4 hour drive. We've gone there with my grandchildren to fly kites and enjoy the beach. In terms of Washington State owned and operated airports it is the top of our list in terms of value and use.</p> <p>This ocean beach airport is unique and offers many fliers and their guests access to this public beach. It should not be shut down simply because a few land owners want it all to their selves.</p> <p>Please DO NOT allow a few residents to block access to all small airplane pilots and their guests.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I am extremely saddened to hear of this proposal. One of my fondest memories in flight was a visit to this airport with a friend. I haven't flown in yet because my flying club doesn't allow us to land there. Once I finish my homebuilt Copalis is on a very short list of places to visit, frequently. Please do not consider closing this airport.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I am opposed to the request that the Copalis Beach State Airport be closed. This is a unique airport, the only one in the 48 contiguous states that uses a beach for a runway. It would be a shame to lose this unique resource.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I am the president of the Olympia chapter of the Washington Pilots Association. I just heard about the potential closure of Copalis; I'd like to urge you on behalf of the membership of the Olympia Chapter to <b>*not*</b> close the airport, and to contact me or John Dobson (president of the WPA) to help communicate better ways for pilots and residents to co-exist and to make sure that everyone can enjoy Copalis without incident.</p> <p>Copalis is one of the Holy Grails of flying in the Northwest: pilots from around the country are always asking about it, and the best stories seem to come from pilots who make visiting Copalis a regular event. Please don't let us lose this amazingly valuable resource!</p> <p>Feel free to contact me anytime, I'm very interested in helping to make sure the airports in southwest Washington (as few as there are) remain open. I'm actively recruiting volunteers for the smaller, at-risk airports such as Elma and Chehalis so that pilots can be involved in decisions that are being made about the airports.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I am writing as a Washington State general aviation pilot with 38 years of military and general aviation flying experience regarding the suggested closure of Copalis Beach Airport. I have landed at this state air strip numerous times over the past 34 years.</p> <p>Sir, this unique airstrip serves many useful functions and at a considerable low cost to Washington State. Shortly after arriving in Washington 34 years ago my flight instructor took me to Copalis Beach Airport to demonstrate how and where to land. This instruction was not just for landing at Copalis but to demonstrate where and how to land an aircraft <u>anywhere on any beach</u> in the event of a forced landing. There are thousands of miles of beaches in the state of Washington along the ocean, the sound, the lakes and rivers that dominate our geography. This was a very important lesson on where and where not to land. As a former Naval aviator I was taught how to 'ditch' because most of our flight time was over water, making it to the beach was not often possible.</p> <p>'Soft field landings' and 'soft field take offs' are something that every general aviation pilot reads about but we have few places to practice. Often these techniques are simulated from a paved runway. Copalis Beach presents the pilot with an actual experience that is the real situation and valuable knowledge that may be useful in an emergency situation. Further, landing parallel to the water edge gives an important illustration of depth perception from the cockpit that is not normally available in a paved runway environment.</p> <p>This airport, S16, has designated landing directions of 32/14, an 801' traffic pattern altitude with designated right hand traffic on runway 14 to keep aircraft traffic out over the water and away from the bluffs to the east. I am not aware of any particular safety issues or incidents over the many years that this runway has existed. If there are complaints from local citizens about noise it may be helpful to increase the TPA to 1001'. If there is concern for aircraft on the beach then maybe the State of Washington could provide a few signs to educate visitors to that area that they are entering an airport landing strip. I am sure if I was from Nebraska walking along the beach for the first time to the Pacific Ocean and did not know I was entering an airport "landing strip" I might well be concerned to meet a plane on final or one taking off over my head. Local citizens know of the air strip but some signage would be helpful to educate the new arrivals or visitors.</p> <p>Copalis Beach has to be one of the lowest cost state airports to 'maintain' and operate. In this time of budget crunches why consider closing what costs the least to operate ? No lights, no stripes, no pavement, no taxiways, no drainage, no mowing, and last I saw only one wind sock !</p> <p>Please work with the general aviation pilots of this state and educate the local citizens of the importance of this beautiful and unique Pacific Ocean beach state landing strip.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
I am writing this letter because I have heard that there would be some discussions into possibly closing Copalis Beach Airport. I am a flight instructor at Wings Aloft flying Club at Boeing Field and each summer we take the members of our club to Copalis and have a great day of fun at the beach. Safety is our number one priority of this Fly-In and we have always conducted ourselves in a safe manor. Please keep the Copalis Beach open as an airport. It is one of only two places in the country where planes can land on the beach. If you have any questions, feel free to give me a call at [REDACTED]	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
I am writing this letter in opposition to the potential closure of the Copalis Beach Airport. This is one of the most unique of not the most unique public use airport in the country. Copalis is currently the only public beach airport in the lower 48, and its closure would remove a very special opportunity for aviators to take advantage of.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
I am writing this letter to strongly oppose the closure of Copalis Beach Airport for general aviation. Our flight school, Wings Aloft (with more than 200 National and International members) do fly-in to Copalis every year and we really like to go and fly over there. So "I oppose the potential closure of Copalis Beach Airport"..... seriously, anything is better than nothing	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
I am writing to express my concern over the proposed closure of the Copalis Beach public runway. This runway is a unique destination to airplane enthusiasts, as it is the only beach airstrip in the Lower 48. Closing this airstrip would be a great loss to Washington and to the aviation community.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
I am writing to express my support for keeping Copalis Beach airport open. It is a wonderful, one-of-a-kind place. Pilots only visit for a small number of days each year, and there is a very small level of maintenance provided for the wind sock and runway markings, but the benefit is enormous. Flying to Copalis Beach is an incredible, positive, educational trip as a unique way to experience the wilderness in our great country.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I am writing to express my support to keep Copalis airport open.</p> <p>There are many recreational and economic reasons for this. I am a representative for the Aviation Owner's and Pilot's Association (AOPA) Airport Support Network (ASN) (whew...acronym overload) for a State- Parks-owned/operated airport in Oregon, as well as a professional pilot (test pilot for the FAA). It has been my experience that people underestimate the economic impact that an airport can have to a community...even a small airport. This is particularly true of an airport as unique as Copalis...its beach runway is literally a magnet for many, many pilots and tourists.</p> <p>The recreational aspects are unparalleled. Pilots will rent airplanes (generating more economic benefit, by the way) just to go to this airport. The opportunity to land at such an unusual place has, undoubtedly, inspired aviators towards a career in aviation.</p> <p>Briefly, those are but a few of the reasons to keep Copalis open. The reason to close it? I haven't heard any specifics but, having watched similar efforts before, I suspect two reasons: (1) noise (but....why buy near an airport if you don't want the noise?...this is a classic "buyer beware") and (2) Safety. The Safety argument, if there is one, should and can be dealt with in many ways, short of closing the airport. Communication is the key...hopefully local aviators have been encouraged to openly work with local residents and officials to discuss concerns and, possibly, find a common middle-ground.</p> <p>I urge you as strongly as I am able to keep this wonderful facility open! Please contact me if I may be of any assistance.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area</p> <p>Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>



Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I am writing to you because I had heard that the Copalis airport was going to be included in public discussions this evening. Please accept this as my request to forward my appreciation of the airport to the group this evening. Copalis airport has been an incredible place for our students to enjoy their flight training. The number one reason our membership of over 200 pilots has made Ocean Shores a primary destination is because of the Copalis airport. Often times we will fly-out to the landing area, clear the area and make a landing followed by a trip to Lana's restaurant at Hoquiam or a stop at Ocean Shores to walk into town for lunch. Of course this is great for our pilots but it is also a great opportunity for the Ocean Shores community. As always it is important to observe safe practices when flying an aircraft and our operations at Copalis are under strict scrutiny by our instructors.</p> <p>I believe that Copalis is the only beach airport in America and an important part of our aviation community. Please accept this as my request to ensure that Copalis airport remains open to all of Washington's citizens.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your time and considerations. If you have any questions I would be glad to help in anyway that I can. Please feel free to contact me via e-mail or by phone at [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I am writing to you regarding the Copalis Beach airport and news that there is a possible risk of it closing. I won't make this too lengthy, but I am definitely against this.</p> <p>As to who I am, my name is [REDACTED]. I'm a senior flight instructor at Wings Aloft, an aviation enthusiast, and have actively been teaching people to fly safely for the last six years. The FAA recognizes me as a Gold Seal flight instructor--a professional educator very involved in aviation with the highest level of excellence. Needless to say, flying and teaching are two things I take very seriously. My aviation background is very diverse, but I would say roughly 1,600 of my flying hours are coastal in nature.</p> <p>This is important, because for pilots in the Puget Sound region, or those who only fly in coastal areas, flying in single engine aircraft and over water means that the possibility of engine failure would force a beach or water landing. With dense housing or dense trees, sometimes there just isn't anywhere else to go. For students, part of the pilot training processes is to teach them how to land on simulated soft surfaces. Occasionally, a lucky few get to try the real thing and land on a grass runway. However, a beach landing is a little different, and requires different considerations. I'm trying to think of other beaches besides Copalis where it's possible for an aircraft to legally land, and I'm coming up blank. Taking that away would deprive most from ever practicing a landing like that with a functioning airplane. Even if it's only one student a month, a now more experienced pilot may not potentially kill himself, or the occupants of his aircraft, because there's a whole new world of usable emergency landing spots.</p> <p>Aside from the flight training value, my wife and I fly out to Copalis during the summer and have a picnic. For those of us with access to aircraft, it's the only way to get to the beach without a four hour drive each way. Wings Aloft also has a yearly fly-in event where several of us in aircraft come down and spend the day at the beach. Ultimately, I believe that closing the airport would be a great loss, for many people. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I have a newspaper article taped to the wall of my office about the Copalis Beach Airstrip. I fly in there routinely. My employees ask me about it. My customers ask me about it. My passengers are amazed when we fly in there. Most of our expenditures for restaurants, fuel, hotels, and entertainment on the peninsula are driven by the fact we get to stop at Copalis. In fact without the airstrip, much of the motivation for going to the peninsula disappears for me and my passengers.</p> <p>I'm a Washington native and I stay abreast of timber, logging and economic issues related to the peninsula. I strongly believe this is one more loss the peninsula does not need. The value of Copalis Beach Airstrip is inestimable. It is a national gem. The loss of Copalis Beach Airstrip would be tragic.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I have been alerted that Copalis State Airport may be closed, due to pressure from some local homeowners. I urge you to strongly resist this pressure, and to keep Copalis open.</p> <p>Flying into Copalis is a unique and wonderful experience. It is the quickest and most immediate way for pilots such as myself who live in metropolitan or inland areas to enjoy the beauty of the Pacific coast. I have flown in to Copalis several times, with visitors to the state and with local friends. I have enjoyed magical quiet days, beach walks and sunsets which we would not have experienced in any other way. A flight to Copalis always makes a huge, positive, impression on visitors, especially those from abroad.</p> <p>Secondly, I know that some of the local homeowners support the airport. On my last visit (a beautiful, warm summer-like day in October last year), I had a long chat with a local resident who was out walking her dog. Unfortunately I do not remember her name, but she said that she and her husband liked seeing the aeroplanes landing, and even enjoyed the times when organised fly-ins used the airport.</p> <p>Finally, since a picture is worth a thousand words, I've attached a thousand reasons to keep the airport open.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I just got an email indicating that there is a move to close Copalis Beach State Airport? I truly hope that this is not true! I have landed there several times &amp; I believe I have only not landed at one state airport (Rogersberg). I would truly hate to see any of them close!</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I just heard about possible discussions on the closure of the Copalis Beach Airport. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN!!!!</p> <p>Copalis Beach Airport is an often used destination by my wife and I, and friends, during the Spring, Summer, and Fall months to really get away from 'it all' and visit the wonderfull world the ocean has to provide. The loss of use of this unique state airport would be unfathomable.</p> <p>In the few years we've been flying in there, there has only been one incident where we seemed to be unwelcome, and that by an older gentleman who seemed to be a nearby homeowner. His wife was very much more cordial, calming, and welcoming. But there will ALWAYS be Someone who objects to the activity and noise surrounding any airport. Do these very few control the lives and activities of so many others?</p> <p>Please consider the uniqueness and history of this airport, and keep it available for use of the flying public. We do have a voice, too.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I just heard about possible discussions on the closure of the Copalis Beach Airport. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN!!!!</p> <p>Copalis Beach Airport is an often used destination to visit the ocean and enjoy our Washington State beaches. The loss of use of this unique state airport would be terrible.</p> <p>Please don't let this unique airport fall into oblivion, the only beach airport in the lower 48. Also consider the usefulness of this runway, along with other "emergency" airstrips throughout the State. They are used for emergency use should the community find itself in need of air transport. Non-flying communities forget about this UNTIL they need aircraft/airlift assistance such as happens after an earthquake or flooding. Please consider the uniqueness and history of this airport, and keep it available for use of the flying public.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I just heard via my associates at Wings Aloft that closure of the airport at Copalis Beach is currently under consideration. I would like to respectfully add my voice to those who urge keeping this treasure as it is.</p> <p>Loss of small airports has been problem nationwide, and once any airport closes, the chance of it being replaced or reopened is near zero. This airport in particular is unique, and I have enjoyed many flights out to Copalis over the past 20 years of my flying life, both as an instructor at Wings Aloft, and with my family and friends. On every occasion, we've treated the area with the highest respect and have planned our arrival and departure to be conducted in the safest manner possible.</p> <p>One of the best ways I've found to show people the world that aviation opens to them is a quick trip out to the San Juans, the north Cascades, or to the ocean beach, any of which is just minutes away from Seattle. I know in addition to simply visiting airports like Copalis, many pilots in Washington (e.g. Washington Pilots Association) volunteer their time to help maintain these fields.</p> <p>Finally, I know from experience that pilots at Wings Aloft are trained in part to respect our neighbors in this ever more crowded world, and to be good ambassadors to the non-flying public. I hope we can reach a solution that is amenable to all.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Airport</li> </ul>
<p>I oppose the closing of the Copalis airport. I am a private pilot and an airplane builder in Bellevue WA . It is my intent to use Copalis as a recreational flying destination. If necessary I would be supportive of measures to make the airport more compatible to local residents such as noise and safety measures.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Airport</li> </ul>
<p>I oppose the potential closure of Copalis Beach Airport that is a great little air port.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Airport</li> </ul>
<p>I oppose the potential closure of Copalis Beach Airport. I own Bear Valley Sky ranch Airport (WN47) 20 minutes from Copalis. Copalis Airport was the first thing on my goal list to go to when I got my private pilot Licence, to fly in and clam dig. I feel this would be a big mistake and would feel something if I couldn't Fly into Copalis. Thank you for listening to my feelings</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Airport</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I oppose the potential closure of Copalis Beach Airport. IT'S THE ONLY ONE ON THE COAST!</p> <p>My family has flies a Cessna 170 and lands at Copalis Beach maybe once every few years. We breathe that marvelous sea air for an hour or two and then leave the beach in the condition we found it. It would be the very best location along the Washington Coast if we ever encounter unexpected weather problems (in Washington?), or we needed to deal with some other problem.</p> <p>Please keep the Copalis Beach airport open and available. Washington Pilots of small craft would be open to helping in any way we can.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I received an email saying that home owners along Copalis beach want to close the airstrip. Let me say that this is one of my favorite places to go on a summer day It is also good for the only place you can fly in and clam dig. My kids and myself look forward every year to flying into Copalis and spending time at the beach. I understand that this is the only beach runway in the lower 48 states and it would be a great loss to the aviation community to lose such a privilege. I know that my family and me have met many new friends from all over Washington, Oregon and Canada at Copalis Beach airstrip and it would be a great loss to have this wonderful place shut down for all of the people to enjoy. Please reconsider the closer of this destination the aviation community looks forward to every season.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I received the email that general aviation was at risk of loosing the Copalis Beach airport. I am a flight instructor at Wings Aloft and we do a "fly in" to Copalis every year. It is the "fly in" that gets the biggest turn out. It is also a great learning opportunity for the students to land on the sand. I have been looking forward to going there all year and it would be a shame not to be able to go. I hope that people will take into consideration that this is the only beach you can land on in America and we need to keep it open for that reason. If you have any questions or need any further help with this issue feel free to contact me at [REDACTED].</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I recently learned of the possible closure of the Copalis State airport (S16). As an active pilot, I find this news very disappointing and disturbing. While I appreciate that there are always two sides to every story, It is my hope that there will be an opportunity for the aviation community to tell our side. It is with this spirit that I write to you today.</p> <p>During my work as a flight instructor and during my enjoyment of aviation as a recreation, I try always to respect the surroundings in which I operate. While I understand that it is not possible to eliminate all of the adverse impact of aircraft operations, I do firmly believe that pilots can very often operate aircraft in such a way as to minimize the impact that the noise creates to the surroundings. This is something that I both practice and teach. Furthermore, I believe that I can speak for the aviation community at large when I say that most pilots are aware of the great privilege that flying in this country offers; and most are very respectful of how we utilize that privilege in an effort to ensure its unchanged future.</p> <p>I am confident that we as pilots can operate in and out of Copalis State airport with this level of respect. Please consider that the loss of this airport not only minimizes access to one of our state's great natural beauties, but it also represents a much larger loss: the loss of a part of the freedom upon which this nation's aviation heritage was based.</p> <p>This is not a loss that we should take lightly and I would instead like to purpose that work to create a happy union between the pilots using Copalis and those individuals who oppose its access by aircraft. I would be happy to help work toward this common goal. Please feel free to advise me of any way in which I might best direct my efforts.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I recently learned that there currently exists a group of private homeowners who are seeking to close the public Copalis Beach airport. I am a Washington resident and a licensed private pilot and am writing to express my opposition to any such closure. The Copalis Beach airport is a very unique public resource and is an extremely popular destination for aviators throughout the northwest. Thousands of families over the years have had the pleasure of landing on the beach and enjoying the beauty and recreational opportunities available. To deny such experiences to future generations at the behest of a small group of private interests would be very unfortunate. The beach has been available to motorized access for many, many years, and any buyer of real estate knew, or should have known, of this fact at the time they bought. To close the airport would essentially result in depriving the public of a longstanding resource for the private benefit of a small number private interests. Thank you for your consideration of my views.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I strongly oppose the closing of Copalis airport. This airport is virtually unique in being the only beach runway in the continental U.S. As such, it serves an extremely useful role in training pilots to land on non-standard airport surfaces. The skills acquired through landing at this airport are particularly relevant to off-airport emergency landings.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I support keeping open the Copalis Beach airport. Thank you.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I thank you for contacting me about the fate of Copalis State Airport. With the cooperation of residents, aviation enthusiasts, WSDOT, and Washington State Parks, I believe Copalis Beach can be shared by all for many more years to come. Its amazing beauty should be accessed by all citizens and not just the ones that chose to purchase a home on the bluff overlooking it. Lets all share this wonderful part of our state together.</p> <p>Our company has been holding fly-ins at this airport for over 30 years. 30 years! It is part of our heritage and one of the biggest reasons we are in business today. There is no doubt that the Copalis Beach fly-in is the cornerstone event of the year. We bring about 40 to 60 people there one time a year for BBQing fun, sand volleyball, flag football, frisbee flying, kite flying and beach fun. Some of my fondest memories have occurred there over the last 10 years.</p> <p>In these tough economic times, our company is solely in business to provide fun and adventures to the flying public. Please do not allow this exciting place to be wiped off the map. I do believe we can all share this wonderful place together.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I think copalis is a wonderful place just not to sit back and appreciate the beauty but also for the positive experiences for pilots like me have had in the past with friends :)</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I understand that a few home owners on Copalis Beach want the air strip closed. I am very much against this because Copalis has very fond memories for me and my wife - it is the place I proposed marriage on a wonderful summer day there on the beach next to the plane. Additionally, it is the only beach air strip in the lower 48 which makes it and Washington State a pretty special place for pilots and their families. Please keep Copalis airfield open!</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>



Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I understand that Copalis Beach airport is in danger of being closed. I am a pilot that flies in there about twice a year to dig clams. Its a very exciting day for me and whoever I may bring with. Its one of the few airports that I encourage others to fly into simply because its so unique and, even though its not challenging to use, it increases anyone's confidence who goes there. This is my vote to keep the airport open. Thanks for any help you can give us.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I understand there is a request to close the Copalis Beach Airport. We request that you not support this measure. There are lots of reasons why, not the least of which is that when airports close anywhere, they are virtually impossible to replace. Copalis has been a favorite location of ours for many years, one of the few places you can actually get to the Washington beaches via aircraft in that the small towns just don't have shuttles, taxis and other options to get from the airport to the beach. Copalis Beach has operated with a stellar safety record for many, many years. Please keep it open.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I was just informed by my good friends at Wings Aloft in Seattle that there is a push to potentially close the Copalis Beach landing zone.</p> <p>Please accept this email as one voice that <u>strongly apposes any proposed closure of the airport</u>. When I first received my private pilots license in 1996 one of my fondest memories was landing on the beach at Copalis. Since then I have shared that magical experience with fellow aviators as well as friends who are not pilots.</p> <p>Copalis is one of the most unique landing strips in the world. It would be a terrible loss to more than just aviation community if it were closed. I trust you will consider this message at your next meeting on the subject. Please keep this great facility open.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I was just informed by my good friends at Wings Aloft in Seattle that there is a push to potentially close the Copalis Beach landing zone. Please accept this email as one voice that <u>strongly apposes any proposed closure of the airport</u>. When I first received my private pilots license in 1996 one of my fondest memories was landing on the beach at Copalis. Since then I have shared that magical experience with fellow aviators as well as friends who are not pilots. Copalis is one of the most unique landing strips in the world. It would be a terrible loss to more than just aviation community if it were closed.</p> <p>I trust you will consider this message at your next meeting on the subject.</p> <p>Please keep this great facility open.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Airport</li></ul>
<p>I was quite concerned to hear that another one of our treasured General Aviation Airports is under attack by local home owners for closure. I am of course referring to the Copalis Airport.</p> <p>As I'm sure you are aware, Copalis is the only public beach runway in the lower 48 and an extremely popular destination for aviators throughout the northwest. Not only is it a rarity, it is a destination enjoyed by MANY of us in the General Aviation community. I am hoping you will do all you can as a representative of our public facilities to do all you can to preserve it. It's a WONDERFUL destination. I have family in that area and my immediate family enjoys our trips to the coast see them on a regular basis.</p> <p>Additionally, I would like to highlight that GA Airports in the US are beginning to disappear at an alarming rate. Needless to say, very few, if any, are being developed anymore. It is important that we do all we can to keep these destinations open for future generations to enjoy.</p> <p>Lastly it should be noted that the homeowners near that airport purchased those homes AFTER the airport was established. With all due respect, they purchased their properties knowing full well what they were buying into. In my humble opinion, they haven't the right to push for the closure of a public facility for their own private interests. Thank you so much for your attention in the matter.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Airport</li></ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I was recently informed that there has been a push to close the Copalis State Airport. I'm writing in my strong opposition to its closure. The airport is a draw for pilots and a real boon to the local general aviation community. Besides being a useful training tool for challenging soft-field landings, it is uncommonly enjoyable to spend a pleasant summer evening barbecuing and enjoying the scenery at S16. Please keep our airport open. Though it's closure can be reconsidered in the future, it's unlikely to ever reopen if it is closed.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I was told that my input would help influence whether this airstrip is closed or stays open and that I should write you. PLEASE keep it open. I've landed there and found it to be an easy and safe "runway". I don't see how anyone could be bothered by the aircraft noise since the ocean waves "drown" the engine noise, I'm sure. More importantly is the usefulness of this runway, along with other "emergency" airstrips throughout the State. They are exactly that, for emergency use should the community find itself in need of airplane transport. Non-flying communities forget about this UNTIL they need aircraft/airlift assistance such as happens after an earthquake. Pilots need to have a practice field as well. Without pilot proficiency flying will become much more dangerous. I've been flying since 1989 as a Private Pilot and stand ready to aid the community in time of need.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I will make this quick because I am sure your inbox is overflowing. Copalis is reportedly that last beach airport in the lower 48 which reminds me of a recent extinction article in National Geographic...please don't let Copalis go the way of the Dodo.</p> <p>I find individuals in general aviation to be extremely safety conscious and well aware of noise courtesy as it is placarded on many general aviation airports. I 100% positive that compromises can be made at Copalis, if necessary, so all can enjoy this National treasure.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I would like to go on record as being opposed to the closure of Copalis Airport. This pristine area offers pilots a unique opportunity to have access to one of this country's beautiful natural settings. In a time when airspace rights of pilots are continually shrinking (as well as the very number of this nation's pilots) I think the closure of an airport which needs little in the way of upkeep would be an unfair restriction.</p> <p>This airport is particularly loved by pilots such as myself. Flying to natural areas normally requires mountain flight--an often dangerous undertaking. The laminar air off the ocean at Copalis provides a safe destination airport with safe landing and takeoff conditions for those of us who enjoy travel to the unspoiled remote areas of our nation.</p> <p>If the inhabitants of the area are opposed to airplanes due to noise or presumed danger, perhaps we could all sit down and propose approach and departure procedures that would both maintain air safety and not deny pilots their rights to this public area. Pilots are reasonable people who understand and accept noise abatement rules and would, I am sure, abide by them voluntarily. I am unable to attend the meeting that is proposed for tomorrow. However, I hope you will take a few moments to read my request to those present.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I would like to put in my two bits worth on the proposed closure of Copalis State air strip. I think it is a valuable resource for pilots. It is reasonably well used, and lend itself well to light aircraft use. Nowhere else can pilots actually find out exactly what it is like to land on the sand. I have been flying out there for better than 10 years now and have never seen it misused by pilots.</p> <p>There is some justification to keep it as an emergency strip. There really is nothing else between Ocean Shores and Fork/Quillayute. Please keep it open. Thanks for listening.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I would like to take this time to ask that you consider my strong objection to the closure of Copalis Beach Airport. It has been a Northwest destination for aviators and families for decades now and enjoyed by young and old, veteran and new pilots alike.</p> <p>I think it unfair to punish an entire region of pilots due to what I understand is an unappreciative resident. I wholeheartedly agree that aviators and residents MUST work together and give mutual respect. We as aviators have an obligation to see that all pilots use the airport in the appropriate manner and to the strictest safety guidelines. However, I do not see as closing a PUBLIC aviation treasure as the solution to the problem because of a misunderstanding.</p> <p>Please do what you can to keep the the airport open for all to enjoy in the years to come.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I would simply like to add my opinion that closing Copalis Beach to aircraft would be short sighted, and <i>extremely</i> unfair to all pilots and passengers that have enjoyed and will enjoy using this beach. Flying in and out of Copalis Beach is a wonderfully unique experience, one of the only in the country, and should be preserved and cherished rather than eliminated. In these economic times, why would anyone be actively pursuing any course of action that would negatively impact people and businesses like this action would? I can't imaging there is any reason or excuse sound enough, that would justify all of the reaching consequences to general aviation in the state of Washington.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I've been informed that there is a meeting coming up soon regarding the possible closure of the Copalis Beach Airport. I won't be able to attend but I'd like to register a vote in opposition to closing it. Copalis is a unique and beautiful airfield, one which I've been looking forward to flying to this summer. There's nothing else quite like it. It would be a shame to deprive Washington State visitors, pilots, and park-goers of such a cool destination.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I'd like to add my voice to the chorus in support of Copalis Airport. It is a treasure. I have many fond memories my family and I have from the past 20+ years of summer trips to Copalis. It is the perfect summer destination, one that should be open and available to ALL Washingtonians and visitors to our state. I would very much like to know what issues there are regarding the airport:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">I cannot imagine it is the noise as the waves drown out just about everything.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">I've never heard about any safety issues,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">I can't imagine that it costs a lot to maintain, and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The beach is certainly big enough for all users.</p> <p>Please let me know what the issues are. Thank of you your support of this valuable natural resource.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I'm very sorry to hear that the Copalis Beach Airstrip is being looked at for closure. Copalis is a unique and valuable resource for pilot training and general recreation. It would be such a shame to lose such a treasure. Please do your best to ensure the privilege of flying to Copalis Beach as a destination endures.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I'm writing in regards to the possible closure of the Copalis Beach airport. Copalis is one of my favorite airports to take my students to. It gives them experiences that they'll never be able to have anywhere else in the country. I also enjoy going there myself in the summer with my wife and friends. Everybody I've taken there loves the fact that we can land on the sand, get out, and immediately start enjoying ourselves on the beautiful ocean beach. It would be a great disappointment to myself and many others, both aviators and non-aviators, to see such a unique airport go away.</p> <p>Thank you very much for your attention to this matter. I sure hope that the residents of Copalis and us aviation enthusiasts can find a way to enjoy Copalis Beach together.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>I'm writing to encourage you to do everything in your power to allow the continued use of Copalis beach as an airport. Being a pilot and aviation instructor, I've had the opportunity to use Copalis Airport numerous times. In addition to my own enjoyment of operating an airplane on and off the beach, I've brought the pleasure of the beach in a unique way to many passengers. There are approximately 5743 miles of coastal beach in the lower 48 states. All of that beach, except for 4500' in our state of Washington, are off limits to aircraft operations. It would be a shame to close that section of beach too, and lose one more of the things that makes Washington State such a great place to live and enjoy.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>It has come to my attention that the Copalis State Airport may possibly close in the near future. As a local pilot and flight instructor, this would be a serious blow to general aviation. Copalis is the only public place in the lower 48 states where we can legally land and takeoff from a beach --- why would you want to be responsible for taking that away from the entire US populace?</p> <p>Copalis serves not only as an excellent get-away and unique landing locale for aviators, but also serves as an excellent example of a soft field runway for students, as well as a potential life saving emergency landing strip. Please do not close Copalis.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>It has come to my attention that there is discussion about closing the airport at Copalis Beach. There are hundreds of miles of beach along the Washington coast. Much of that land is open to the public and there are many places for land vehicles along the beach. This airport is the one place available to planes, which displays the beauty and majesty of the ocean and beaches. I believe it is a mistake to close it and think it should stay open. I have never had the opportunity to fly there, but one day I would like to take my family there and I hope it will still be available for my children to enjoy.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>It has come to my attention that there the state is considering closure of Copalis State Airport. As a flight instructor and aviation enthusiast, I can attest to the fact that this is one of the most unique airports in the world, and an invaluable resource to the aviation community. In fact, Copalis Airport is by far one of the most popular destinations my students wish to visit. Loosing this vital training and recreation resource would be a huge blow to northwest aviators, and I humbly request that you continue to work with our community to keep the airport open.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I've just heard from a friend of mine about some discussions happening regarding Copalis Beach Airport. Several of my friends are recreational pilots and over the years we have enjoyed multiple trips to this special Washington coast destination. The thrill of landing on the beach is indescribable, and it's a wonderful part of our community.</p> <p>I truly hope that with open communication everyone with an interest in this unique little strip of sand can be served. Please add my name to the list of those Washington citizen's who would like to enjoy the Copalis Beach Airport for a long time to come! Thank you for taking the time to read my email.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>I've just learned that there is talk of closing this amazing aviation resource. I may not be the most persuasive person in writing, so bear with me, please. This is the <b>ONLY</b> beach airport in the lower 48. Washington has it. This is something for our state to be proud of. This airport attracts pilots to the area just so they can land on a beach. Once here pilots pay for fuel, food, lodging and other purchases.</p> <p>This airport is used only during certain tides - leaving much or most of the beach in that area for general public use - more often than its used by airplanes.</p> <p>Once an airport is closed - it never returns. So many have been lost only to have a negative impact on the area later when they wish an airport were available. (example Bellevue and Issaquah).</p> <p>Washington has hundreds of miles of beaches along the ocean, sound, along lakes - there is plenty of place for those who wish to enjoy sand. There is only <b>ONE</b> place for pilots to enjoy a beach experience. Please look at Copalis Beach Airport as the unique and special jewel that it is and treat it accordingly. A jewel that once lost can never been found again.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>Just a short note to express my support for keeping Copalis Beach open for airplanes to takeoff and land (among other approved uses).</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
keep this airport open to the public since it is the only one around and is used to get people interested in flying.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
Landing at Copalis Beach is one of those rare things that make this country what it is. Please do not take this liberty away. One last of it's kind taken away for a few's convenience?	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
My girlfriend and I love Copalis because we can fly in and walk the beach. No other airfield is convenient to do this. Since there is no alterative it would be a shame to lose this treasure.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
My name is [REDACTED] and I am President of the NW Antique airplane Club. Many club members, including myself, continue to fly in & out of Copalis airstrip on the beach. Copalis is such a "gem" of a location to pilots. It is listed as a "fly-out" on many aviation websites due to its popularity. It is considered one of most unusual & interesting places to fly into, in the Northwest. It is definitely one of a kind. Please do not let us lose this airstrip.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
My name is [REDACTED] and I have been flying in the northwest since 1999. I was deeply disturbed to find that a handful of people are pressuring you to close Copalis Beach Airport to the northwest flying community. I oppose the potential closure of Copalis Beach Airport. Copalis is the only public beach runway in the lower 48 states.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
Myself [REDACTED] i am a commercial pilot,i some how got to know that copalis beach airport is going to close,i really wanna tell you that i ove flying in beautiful scenic airports and copalis beach airport is one of my favourite destination,i remember last year i really had a good time flying there and if i get time i definately go there again by this summer. so its my request you to please don't close it	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport



Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Please accept this as my request to ensure that the Copalis airport remains open as a public use airport.</p> <p>Copalis airport is a wonderful destination for our member pilots and students to enjoy. Wings Aloft has conducted annual group "fly-in's" to Copalis beach for over 25 years. The airport is regularly used for training purposes and literally thousands of our members have been able to "enjoy a day at the beach" and surrounding communities over the course of the last 32 years.</p> <p>The existence of the Copalis Beach airport has a very positive economic effect on other communities within Grays Harbor county as pilots also often stop at Ocean Shores and Hoquiam to purchase personal and aircraft goods and services. I do not know this for a fact, but I imagine that the cost to operate and keep the Copalis airport open is minimal, and that the economic returns to the County are substantial. if you have any questions about our use of the airport and the benefits that it provides to our community.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>Please count me among the many, many pilots in the Pacific Northwest who strongly favor keeping this airport open, and available for public use. Note that unlike other forms of vehicle access, aircraft traffic is inherently transitory, and only produces significant noise during departures, as opposed to the areas of public land open to ATV enthusiasts (for example), who's pursuits result in continuous noise.</p> <p>But more importantly, this resource offers a truly one-of-a-kind experience to general aviation pilots, and this is a strongly positive reflection on the State of Washington's sense of fairness, balance of appropriate use of public lands and respect for legacy uses.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>Please do not close Copalis Beach Airport. It is a wonderful place to fly to for a relaxing afternoon. I expect it is a rather low maintenance airport cost wise.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>Please do not close Copalis Beach State Airport! I have many fond memories from my childhood of barbeques, family outings &amp; Sunday afternoon flights of flying to the unique and extremely popular airport. More recently, I have coordinated Wings Aloft's most popular fly-in to the airport, aided in air charters where a gentleman proposed to his girlfriend on the beach, and had the pleasure to land at the airport myself as a private pilot. Copalis is an incredible asset to the aviation community, student to commercial pilots enjoy the benefits of landing on the beach which only Copalis offers. To lose an airport of such popularity and significance in not only the aviation community, but the community as a whole, would be a major travesty.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
Please do not close the Copalis airport; it is an important part of the state airport network, and beloved by pilots flying the coast. Thank you for your consideration!	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
Please do not consider closing the beach airport. I am a technical program manager at Intel Corp, and also a commercial pilot. I've flown into Copalis Beach only a few times, but I know it is a great resource for pilots in our area, both for training and also for recreation. I believe it is the only beach airport still in existence in the lower 48 states. Having this airport open allows pilots to safely practice landing in a situation that they might encounter as an emergency landing somewhere else, dramatically increasing the odds of successfully landing when you don't have the ability to practice.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
Please keep Copalis Beach Airport available for aircraft. There are hundreds of miles of beach but only this one airport for us to use. It is something really special that residents of Washington have that other states do not have.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
Please know that there are many people who treasure the privilege of using Copalis State. It is unfortunate that a few do not have the vision to understand the incredible opportunity we have in sharing this asset with nature lover's of all kinds.If there is anything I can do to assist you in doing whatever possible to keep this airport open for future generations, please do not hesitate to call on me.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
Please reconsider closing the only airstrip on a beach in the lower 48... We enjoy a treasure there in such a wonderful experience that once closed will be gone forever. It is a real shame this has gotten this far because of some disgruntled landowners... they knew that the airport was there before they purchased their land in almost all cases. Thanks for your consideration and again, I ask you reconsider and allow continued airport operations there.	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport
Please support continued operation of the Copalis Beach airport. While I am unaware of the case made for closure by local residents, based on my experience at the airport it is difficult to imagine a terribly strong case for closure on the basis of the usual complaints about public use airports, such as safety (either actual or feared incidents), noise, or general inconvenience. If anything, it seems likely that many local beach users like it. Most times I use Copalis, other beach users are intrigued and interested and seem to enjoy the "air show".	Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Thank you for your E-mail message concerning the long-term plans for the North Beach area state parks. I know that the staff are doing a wonderful job and are part of the community. I will include your comments in the materials that the planning team reviews, and it seems pretty easy to give you a map of Pacific Beach State Park. I appreciate your participation and will keep you informed.</p> <p>Please note that I will periodically post documents on the Internet, including your comments. If you would like to follow the progress, please visit State Parks' planning web page and click on the North Beach area link on the right-hand side.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>The intention of this letter is to affirm my strong support for keeping Copalis Beach open to air traffic. As a pilot and employee at a flight school, having access to Copalis is incredibly beneficial. Our flight school, Wings Aloft, is a unique business entity that was built on community, adventure, education and safety not to mention affordable flying. Not only is Copalis an important tradition for our flight school, but it remains an important aspect to general aviation flying as well. Copalis Beach Airport is essential to out of the box flying that helps pilots expand their abilities and increases awareness and safety. If there is anything I can do to help in this matter please let me know.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>This is probably one of hundred of emails that you have already received regarding the possible closure of Copalis airport. For the last couple of years and since my daughter was old enough to jump with me on the plane and head down to Copalis beach airport for the clam season, well it became for us a family thing and wonderful outdoor experience. Not only had the place brought Northwest pilots together but also it allowed for younger generation to discover the area and what it has to offer through the General Aviation. Please do not take away this from us.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>
<p>Though I received the notice too late to affect your input at the proposed meeting, I surely hope that another airport closure was avoided . This airport, in particular, is not one that should even be on a proposed closure list, as it really costs the state very little to maintain, and the number of people affected by any noise or overflights is incredibly small. Please do your best to continue flying activity at Copalis Beach Airport. Thank you.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational - Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Today, word is traveling amongst many of us pilots who have frequented Copalis Airport that it is in danger of closure. As a pilot who has frequented this airport from my home base in Oregon and shared information about this destination to many transient pilots wishing to explore aviation in the State of Washington, I would view a closure of this airport as truly unfortunate.</p> <p>I use this airport as a location to take visitors, as a rest stop on my journeys to the San Juan's and beyond and plan my flights near this location as a safe harbor should I experience any problems.</p> <p>From your position, I would hope that you view the retention of this airport as vital for tourism in you State as well as a truly unique way to maintain access to this great location. There are many pilots who would consider closure of this airport a real loss.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>We very much like the experiences we've had camping at Cape Disappointment and Ocean Shores. I would like to see them get adequate funding to keep them at their fun filled best.</p> <p>I think we users need to contribute a bit more during these tuff financial times. I know I would be willing to purchase a season pass similar the forest service and park service passes to help contribute to the maintenance and upkeep of our treasured state part system. I would hope that others that know the true value of these treasures would also participate.</p> <p>Keep up the great work and if there is anything I can do from the Olympia area here to comment when they have legislative hearings on this subject, let me know.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>We, all registered voters and active pilots, all oppose the potential closure of the Copalis Beach Airport (S16). As the only PUBLIC beach runway in the lower 48 states, this is a huge tourism draw for pilots from not just all over the North American Continent, but we have hosted many events on this beach where we have met pilots from Australia, South Africa, Aruba, Brazil, Great Britain and more. We believe that this runway and airport have been established longer than any of the local populace have lived in that area, and as such, this warrants the protection and promotion of this airport. Please help keep the Washington State aviation community active and proud of all of our natural resources. Thank you for your time,</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>
<p>Why do we continue to do away with Parks, Airports and other recreational opportunities in the Northwest? Once these are gone you will never have them again –I grew up in Los Angeles and there were many small airports and many parks –Now there are almost none. I live in Sammamish next to Soaring Eagle Park – or Section 36 600 acres of open space that some people want to put soccer fields on? Once Airports and open space is divided – it is gone forever –Someone will be able to write in a book how nice this was before it was closed. Remember this is the only one left!</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <p>- Airport</p>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p><b>Subject:</b> Re: Are you interested in the North Beach area state parks? Hard to know what you are looking for but here are some of my thoughts:</p> <p>-Pacific Beach is our favorite because of the cleanliness of the beach, and no cars driving on the beach.</p> <p>-Ocean City: like the park, but the beach has been dirty the last couple of times that we've been there. Putting out a survey through e-mail might be a good way to get the info that you want.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Beach clean-up</li> </ul>
<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment and give input. I'd very much like to keep informed on the planning and the decisions being made. We are regular users of the Ocean City, Griffiths-Priday and Pacific Beach parks.</p> <p>Primary concern is the vehicle traffic on the beach near the Ocean City and Griffiths-Priday state parks, and within walking distance of Pacific Beach state park. I know this is a difficult issue touching tribal rights, but at a minimum I'd like to see this reduced and moved further away from the parks. In summertime it leads to unsafe conditions, but also in winter time you see reckless drivers doing donuts on the beach - not what it is meant for. A first step could be to limit to specific purposes: tribal ceremonies and loading/unloading fishing or clamming gear for example.</p> <p>The bathrooms are in good enough condition and usually kept clean - please make sure to provide adequate funding for keeping it that way. I do appreciate that you are keeping the parks open year round, kudos to all state park staff. The web-based reservation system is functional and reliable. This is it for now. Looking forward to the next steps.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Beach driving</li> </ul> <p>North Beach Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Operations</li> </ul>
<p>Thank you for this opportunity to express opinions! I was born and raised here in Wa, and I love our beautiful state and parks. However, there is one thing that I hate about our coastal parks, and that is cars are allowed to drive on the beach! As a child, my parents always took us to the Oregon coast because of that reason. The coastal beaches in Oregon are beautiful and safe. We went camping to the Ocean Shores area last summer with friends, and we had lots of kids with us. As a parent, I hated it. It was ridiculous having cars driving so close to the kids running on the beach!! I very much doubt we will camp on Wa coast again. However, we will go to Oregon coast, because they have modeled how to keep their coastline pristine.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Beach driving</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Thank you, Brian, for soliciting input! Last summer my family and I stayed at the Ocean City State Park. One thing that really hampered my enjoyment was the allowance of motorized vehicles on the beach. We had our small son with us and I found myself having to stay "on alert" for any sneaker waves in front of us, and any fast moving vehicles behind us. As you might imagine, this was nerve-racking and arguably unsafe. Some of the motorists who passed just feet away were moving at high rates of speed and I wondered about the presence of DUI. It seems like common sense to me to keep cars/motorcycles and children's play areas separate. I am in full support of making Washington beaches "pedestrian only." Another idea could be to add a paved trail, if ecologically and structurally sound, for bicycles, skaters, buggies, etc.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Beach driving</li> </ul>
<p>Display rules of the beach signs at the Moclips Beach Approach Restrooms on 2nd St. These should include the offenses we watch take place here all the time. Such as: Beach Speed Limit Signs, Beach Fire Rules, Leaving seals alone, driving on clam beds, driving in closed area, letting them know the beach is a state highway and all rules apply, taking your garbage with you, what plastic stuff does to sea life, etc.</p> <p>Yes, some of these signs are posted on the beach approach, but they obviously are not seen. Maybe when folks are out of their cars, they would read the signs?? Also a sign showing folks where they are in relation to the North Beach area. Thanks to the employees of the Pacific Beach State Park. They do a fine job of policing our beach. We are very appreciative. Special thanks to Bev Baumgartner.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signing</li> </ul>
<p>What will be the affects on the Seashore Conservation Area and state parks when there is sea-level rise?</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Natural</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sea-level rise</li> </ul>
<p>My main concern is safety. The cars on the beach often are speeding. Is is possible to ban cars? Secondly-dangerous dogs. I have Golden Retrievers and have been charged by pit bulls and other aggressive dogs. Can they be banned or a muzzle required?</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Beach driving</li> <li>- Pets</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>95% of our camping is with Washington State Parks. We very much enjoy the camping and facilities available. I'm not sure if this is the type of comments you want, but this is one from us. There is only one thing that bothers us, unfortunately it is in all parks, even non-state parks, where dogs run free and the leash rule is ignored. We ourselves have a dog that goes everywhere with us and he is never unleashed except in the trailer. He has been attacked by dogs running free, and we ourselves have had dogs run up to us barking and snarling. One time I was unable to use the restroom because a women had a dog on a leash, but she was in the stall with leash going through the crack by the door of the stall with a huge german shepherd type dog outside the stall door. She was in the first stall, and the dog growled and snarled when I went to go by to use another stall. I backed off and went outside and waited for her to leave.</p> <p>If this isn't what you had in mind, I apologize, but at least you are aware of the problem with the dogs. We in no way are suggesting "no pets", just somehow enforcing the rules better. We love traveling with our pet, and respect others around us by following the rules.</p>	<p>Seashore Conservation Area Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pets</li> </ul>
<p>Enjoy this park very much! But I don't understand why everyone is not treated equal. We have a pickup camper that measures 20'. If we want to have an extra vehicle we are charged \$10. extra. If we had a 40' moterhome towing an extra vehicle there is no additional charge. Is this fair?</p> <p>Has anybody had the thought of doing away with all the fancy stuff and let a campground host take care of the park and just do reservations on line?</p>	<p>State Parks Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fees</li> </ul>
<p>Would like to see more affordable rates for seniors.</p>	<p>State Parks Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fees</li> </ul>
<p>I often visit the WA coastal state parks, sometimes just for the afternoon, and sometimes to camp overnight. I would be happy to respond to surveys or polls regarding my thoughts and preferences. We also visit the Oregon coastal state parks, and I believe that the Oregon parks are "prettier" than the WA parks. This is partially due to the climate, topographical, and environmental differences which are out of the state's control, but there may be other areas where WA can benefit from learning about OR's parks programs.</p>	<p>State Parks Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- General comment</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Please include myself, [REDACTED] planning and information for North Beach Parks and all State Park meeting and planning and anything dealing with Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. Furthermore my interest include all coastal counties and communities information and planning events, including zoning and building codes. I will schedule to visit the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting and wish to assist any expansion of the Washington State and local county Parks Systems. I would like to suggest some reservation only parks make as few sites first come first serve and a few park that are first come first serve only make a few sites reserve able. And, Lord forbid. Should suggest contingency plans for emergency conversion of some state park to refugee camp in the event of massive economic collapse.</p>	<p>State Parks Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- General comment</li> </ul>
<p>We are long time visitors of Washington north beach parks. I'd very much enjoy participating virtually in planning and making the northbeach parks more enjoyable, more affordable, and most importantly – more durable in these economic times.</p> <p>In the past couple of years, we have noticed many camping sites sit empty during peak season. We believe this is an issue with policy of holding reserved sites for an excessive period of time, and quite frankly, a lost opportunity to capture additional revenue by releasing these empty sites to willing campers late in the evening. There are many ways this can be accomplished. I'd love to provide some ideas.</p> <p>Also, we know that campers are reserving sites for multiple days, in order to take advantage of the early bird reservation loophole, only to cancel one or more days later. Again, this is a lost opportunity. Please keep me on your distribution list. Perhaps we'll see you at pacific beach in august.</p>	<p>State Parks Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reservation system</li> </ul>
<p>Brian, please keep us on the contact list so we can receive updates. As a government employee myself (who only gets to enjoy the parks on weekends as a parttime resident), I know that we can't expect the government to do everything for the parks. All of us who enjoy these parks need to do our part. I frequently look for organized volunteer activities and have a hard time finding any. I often check the Nature Conservancy but rarely see anything in Grays Harbor, let alone the North Beach area. I would love to see State websites with listed organized volunteer activities where we can all give back to these special places, to preserve them for the future and for our children.</p>	<p>State Parks Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Web page</li> </ul>



Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Thank you for the invitation to be a voice for our fantastic State Parks.</p> <p>With all the budget cuts we were happy to receive what we would call a e-mail of hope. Our family has used the parks for camping, picnicing, and hiking since our children were babies (Late 70's). We have camped from east to west...north to south...and from the mountains to the beach...we have launched boats and strolled in the sand. Our family is particularly drawn to the water...Tom to the Ocean City State Park beaches...Pattie loves the Fort Worden/Fort Flagler area the most. Our now adult children continue this tradition as well.</p> <p>If we were to identify one issue that affects us personally would be the fact that campsites are rather limited. The days of loading up the trailer and heading to the park are gone, especially in the summer months.</p> <p>We love the fact that a reservation system has come in to play but two weeks ago we were seaching for a campspot in July and everything is full already.More and more of us are staying close to home and we love that we are out enjoying the parks. It looks like we have a "we want our cake and eat it too" mentality...the intimacy of the park being on a smaller scale, but the convenience of going when we have the time.</p> <p>The only draw back we have found in recent camping trip was.... When looking at sites online it would be nice to share any problems the site may encounter. The last time we camped at Ocean City...there was a very large storm...we love the storms but when we got up in the morning our trailer door was right in the middle of a huge lake!! So , if any of the planning includes drainage issues...that may be something to consider. Good Luck and we are looking forward to visiting you very soon.</p>	<p>State Parks Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Web page</li> </ul> <p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Flooding</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>My name is [REDACTED] and I appreciate the opportunity to get involved in this process. My two kids and I typically camp at Ocean City at least once a year. The campgrounds are typically clean and the staff friendly and helpful.</p> <p>A couple years ago, we happened to book our campsite during the annual motorcycle get together at Ocean City. I would like you to know that I have a long history with riding motorcycles and personally owned four bikes before I ever owned a car. I have dead bugs on my leathers that have more road miles than most riders you see.</p> <p>My thought would be that special events that are happening at a specific geographic area or campground should be viewable when making reservations. I had no problem with the bikers that shared the campground with us as they were very respectful and limited their bikes exhaust tone as best as they could. However, I heard several other campers complain about “those people”. I would bet that if they knew that they would have been camping with bikers, they may have chosen a different weekend.</p> <p>Conversely, I believe that if certain family friendly events were published online as a part of the reservation process (revenue dollars for advertising) you may find better results even if weather may not be the greatest. Thanks again for hearing me out.</p>	<p>State Parks Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Website development</li> </ul>
<p>Thank you for your email notice and request</p> <p>I do have two inputs</p> <p>1&gt; I would prefer to see the State of Washington Parks and Recreation personnel continue to manage each individual park and campground. I do not believe a “Private Subcontractor” has the same affinity to the Campgrounds and Parks as the full time State personnel</p> <p>2&gt; Since my wife and I are retired and on a limited income and since we were both born, raised and have lived in Washington state since birth, we very much appreciate the break we receive as Senior Citizens using the “Off Season Pass”. We do not have jobs anymore and the break we receive for camping costs from Oct through March each year is greatly appreciated. We are especially interested in not seeing any changes to the Pacific Beach Park facility, management or caretakers My (our) Best Regards</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Change in operation</li> </ul> <p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Revenue generation</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I'm sorry I won't be able to attend this evening's meeting, but I do have a couple of things that I'd like to mention, and hopefully I'll be able to attend the next meeting. First of all I'd like to say that I really appreciate how much the local state parks staff is interested in the surrounding communities. I know staff have been involved in our local Chocolate-on-the-beach festival, community emergency preparedness, and Museum of the North Beach activities, and I'm certain they have been involved in many more community groups that I'm not aware of.</p> <p>The Ocean City and Pacific Beach State Parks greatly benefit the community not only because of the increased economy to the area but also for the educational offerings to the public. These parks provide our valuable visitors with camp sites that are economical, safe, well cared for, and in close proximity to the beach.</p> <p>As a volunteer EMT with Grays Harbor Fire District #8, in Pacific Beach, there is just one thing I would like to suggest. Could we possibly get a map of the Pacific Beach park layout? This would help when we are dispatched to the park, when no park staff is present. I'd also like to say that the times we've had to assist people at the P.B. state park and there have been staff there, the staff have been wonderful in assisting us.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul> <p>North Beach Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Coordinating with emergency services</li> </ul>
<p>With State Parks in a big money crunch , why is more \$ being spent on meetings and planning for projects that would have no funding to complete ?? Parks needs to focus whatever funding that is left on needed maintenance and upkeep to keep Parks open for the public .</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cost savings</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>First and foremost, I have great appreciation for the job you're doing! I think it's fantastic and I'm sure that you're finding many citizens are giving you input. Hopefully that shows how important the state parks are to us.</p> <p>Though we support the governors need for making cuts, we are greatly concerned about the decision to close many of our parks. This saddens us, as so many people (especially during this economic time) can not afford to travel abroad and the parks are our local treasures. As the saying goes: "This land is our land" and closing the parks would be SHAMEFUL! You may or may not have a way to pass on this comment, but I feel important to say my part any chance that I can. So thank you for taking the time to read this.</p> <p>As far as the North Beach Parks meeting..... I would like to address a visit that me and my family had to the Ocean Shores State Park this last July. It was the last weekend that we stayed at the park. We had the unfortunately realization that there was some sort of motorcycle convention/rally in Ocean Shores that same weekend. Every night that we were there, there were motorcycles coming and going at ALL hours of the night. And of course they were the extremely loud ones - mostly Harley's I'm sure. Now we are actually former motorcyclists ourselves, but anyone there those nights I guarantee did not appreciate hearing the rolling thunder of the bikes all night long! It was a miserable experience!</p> <p>I would love to see discussion brought up about this and possible solutions to this issue. I understand the possible sensitivity of some of the "characters" one might have to deal with regarding a loud motorcycle (especially in the middle of the night). Keeping everyone happy would be expected. But it would be nice to see a noise curfew strictly enforced for all to enjoy the park the way they expected to. Many sincere thanks for giving us the opportunity to voice our opinions!</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>
	<p>Ocean City Recreational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Operations</li> </ul>
<p>Thank you for including me in the planning process regarding the North Beach State Parks. My husband and I are particularly interested in Ocean City and Pacific Beach. After more than 25 years of tent camping in the northwest, we bought a travel trailer and have enjoyed using it at both the above parks several times. We feel strongly about the preservation of the state park system for future generations.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Thank you for inviting our input on our usage of the North Beach State parks. We stay in our motorhome at Ocean City several times a year. Our RV group alternates between Grayland and Ocean City each summer to plan an outing. We enjoy the wooded setting and quiet nature of Ocean City. The staff is always very helpful. In the past our grandkids have enjoyed the historical and nature presentations of the staff. We understand the nature of our State Budget problems but hope you can maintain some level of service to the camping community. I would also note that I appreciate the on-line reservation system you have set up. It is easy to use and allows quick and efficient on-line reservations. Thank you for your continued service to the state residents.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Importance of parks</li></ul>
<p>Pacific Beach Our family and friends have been going this park for years!!! Clam digging, Easter family weekend, Kite family and friends get together and new years. Hope you are not planning to close this park!!!</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Importance of parks</li></ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>As a business owner in Ocean Shores I can tell you it is the Beach visitors come for. There would be little or nothing to bring them to Ocean Shores if the beach was closed. That said, with gross revenues that contribute to the state sales tax coffers I would also suggest that the cost of closing the beach in Ocean Shores would do more damage than good. I imagine the sales tax figures for all businesses in Ocean Shores are accessible to you as a state agent or through freedom of information. And it would seem to me that a case could be made for significant reductions in State Sales Taxes if the preponderance of businesses in Ocean Shores were unable to sustain. Many are struggling already with the economic set-backs.</p> <p>The economy of Montesano is grounded in the government there, while I'm sure Lake Sylvia brings tourists throughout the summer, their dollars are not nearly as impactful as the 30,000+ who visit the north shore each weekend all summer. And, those visitors spend dollars on food &amp; souvenirs that add to the State Sales Tax.</p> <p>In a personal search for alternative energy for our home I was reading of a pilot project in Grayland: [REDACTED]</p> <p>It seems that if a few wind turbines can generate \$650K, and the alternative is no park (beach) access, there is an opportunity here to concede a little bit of wild space for some power generation. In exchange for a bit of space for a wind turbine the accessibility to the park (beach) for the future could be assured and potentially forever paid for.</p> <p>It's a time when we clearly have to be creative, and willing to bend without giving up our natural resources. We have a government that states it's willingness to look at alternative energy sources and fund them through many varied stimulus packages.</p> <p>The Ocean City Park, while on paper, may seem like a campground, the state park is the agency for the entire beach here, and the beach is the foundation for the Ocean Shores economy. Closing it would not just be a loss or transfer of a park, it would be the loss of a town and its economy.</p> <p>Please consider this in your planning.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul> <p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Revenue generation</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Brian Hovis: In these times of tight family expenditures and cutting othe cost of travel for familys and individuals, I cannot imagine closing the Ocean City State Park. It is imperative that our government takes time to THINK about the blue collar workers and their families in these times.</p> <p>I am an Ocean Shores resident and have visited it several times with relatives and family just wanting to be out in the great outdoors. This park isn't just your normal park. It has individual forrested camping areas hook-ups for a camper or trailer or even a tent. It has wonderful picnic areas where everyone can enjoy themselves and relax. Have you ever driven through this campground? It has clean restrooms and shower rooms available. It is always bustling with campers and their children walking and biking around the roads. Great hiking trails are available to those who may want to walk to the Ocean beaches for that evening sunset. What a shame tht would be to lock the gates and not only turn the public away-but take the park rangers and their familys livelihoods away. Ocean Shores which is close to the park hasn't the parks that are needed for the R.V's and campers that frequent the area to Clam Dig or fly their kites and leave the beach with "Happy Thoughts" and "Family Memories" of the stay at the Ocean City State Park. On any holiday, Ocean City State Park is booked ahead before the holiday arrives. The Legislature and Governor Gregoire need to look at the totals for how many people frequent the Ocean City State Park.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>
<p>Closing the Ocean City park would be very detrimental to the economy of Ocean Shores. Every year many people use that park. We have very few RV parks to accommodate all the tourist that want to enjoy the ocean and camp. It is the nicest one and I myself have stayed there. I am a business owner and many of my customers stay there. Please take this into consideration when making your decision. Also, visit the park if you haven't already. You'll see what I talking about.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>
<p>Have we explored "hiring" RV owners, aka retirees that seasonally travel, to reside in the parks free of charge as monitors/having a presence during the high usage months? This is an effective program that proven itself in planned communities such as Lake Limerick in Mason County.</p> <p>Our communities cannot afford to have unsupervised parks on the WA coast. City, county and state Police patrols is not the solution. A presence at the parks is a solution to keep the abusers at least under watch. I would be happy to put you in touch with Lake Limerick management to discuss their program.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Hello, My Name is [REDACTED] and I am a Business owner in Ocean Shores Wa. I have great concern about the possible thought of closing the state parks in my area. We provide a great escape to the entire state of Wa. when it comes to being able to go to the beach and get away from it all. lots of people look forward to their summer vaca at our beaches as well as being able to access the state parks. I travel several times a year for my Business and when I tell people about ocean shores I include that is is one of very few places in the state that people can come to the beach and enjoy our beautiful coast and it's serenity. I really only know of two beach destination that people come to to stay at the beach in the entire state of Wa. and they are Ocean shores and Westport.And Ocean shores opens its arms to over 4 million tourists/visitors per year, it would be severly detrimental to our already fractured economy and the business' out here to even think or put this on the board. please here us out here we are like WHO VILLE and we need a Horton.. thanks and I will be at the council metting on the 18th.. Thanks for your time.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>
<p>I am not in the area but enjoy camping along the coast at the State Camp Grounds. I would like to recommend that the day use fees be re-instated at the State Parks to help cover the financial shortfalls. Most users are willing to pay the day use or obtain the annual passes. We actually live near Birch Bay State Park and had annual passes before the fees were removed.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Revenue generation</li> </ul>
<p>I am sorry that I can not attend this meeting, however I am interested in the North Beach Parks, I usually visit Ocean City State Park and Bog. State Parks at least once a year. I really hate to see any of them have to be closed. I know there are plans to do so for at least Bog. State Park.</p> <p>Bog. State Park is of course a very small and older facility, but it is in a somewhat different environment than most of the other parks. When I stayed there in Feb. it did have a reasonable winter time use and gets lots (10 to 20) drive in's just to use bathroom facilities. There are not a lot of rest area's along this stretch of 101, maybe some partnership with DOT for use as a rest area could help keep funding. Please keep me on your list and I will comment as subjects arise. Thanks again for keeping me informed on events affecting our State Parks.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>
<p>I am very interested in state parks remaining open to the public. I don't understand why more and more new "parks" are being opened while the established parks are being closed and ignored. I believe usage should play a much larger role in deciding which parks are closed, if any are closed at all. State parks are not only good for Washington citizens but also tourist attractions.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cost savings</li> </ul>



Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I have read that the subject park is on the list for possible closure due to budget constraints. As it is part of the economy of the Ocean Shores area as well as the North Beach Area, closure would adversely impact our merchants.</p> <p>As an alternative to closure I would submit the idea of leasing out the facility to a private, responsible and qualified individuals or entity to operate the facility. I know that this is done in other areas and the state could realize income to help with the budget crisis and it would allow the facility to serve the people as it is a very popular RV and camping site.</p> <p>Incidentally, my family once owned the property where the park is situated and it was purchased from my Mother, [REDACTED] some years ago</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cost savings</li> </ul>
<p>We are very much interested in the Washington State Parks. We stay in the parks a lot, especially Pacific Beach park. We were in Oregon at the time your e-mail was sent out and did not have e-mail access.</p> <p>It is very disturbing to us that the governor is considering closing so many Wa State Parks. This is one activity that families can still afford without too much strain on their budgets. We appreciate the rangers and their helpful attitudes, AND, the volunteers that host the parks.</p> <p>I apologize for late response but still wanted you to hear from us.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>
<p>I have to admit that I am totally appalled by what I see happening to the state parks of Washington. I have traveled around the world and seen many amazing places and quite a few parks, but I have been totally blown away by what the State of Washington has to offer its residents and visitors. Now, however, the budget crunch is taking its toll on the State Parks department, forcing it to divest itself of resources that can never be replaced when the 'good times' come again. I think what the governor and the state legislators are doing...taking shortcuts to make up for their own ineptitude and lack of foresight as caretakers of state budgets and monies...is 'penny-wise and pound-foolish'. There are a lot of other targets for budget cuts before one should take to slashing away what rightfully and truly belongs to the people. I cannot attend the workshop on the 18th since I have a previous commitment, but I would like to be keep informed or what is happening. Thank you.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>
<p>I HEARD THAT OCEAN CITY WAS ONE OF THE PARKS ON YOUR LIST FOR POSSIBLE CLOSURE. MY HUSBAND I LOVE TO CAMP THERE AND FEEL IT WOULD BE A SHAME FOR IT TO BE CLOSED. IT IS A WIDELY USED PARK, AND THE NICEST IN O THE AREA, CAN YOU TELL ME THE REASONS THIS PARK WAS PICKED?</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>I live in Ocean Shores, but in years past, before moving here, I stayed at the Ocean City State Park when I came to the beach. I now have friends and relatives who come to the area and stay at the park because they like the camping style of being at the beach as opposed to the stiffness of staying in a motel.</p> <p>Ocean City State Park brings many visitors to the area and is a much needed source of tourism to this beach town of Ocean Shores. Ocean Shores is struggling in the sour economic climate as is many other places, but camping is something people can still afford to do and THEY WILL COME.</p> <p>In addition, as you close other state parks, the remaining ones will become more used. There are many times now in the summer season that I see 'campground full' at this park. It is most certain that will happen more as people can't go other places that you have closed AND cannot afford to do more expensive forms of entertainment such as traveling farther for vacations or staying on motels.</p> <p>Please don't close Ocean City State Park! People of this state and visitors from others need this park!</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>
<p>I would be willing to bring a mower 2 Pacific Beach St. Pk. just 2 keep the grounds looking good as a volunteer. I have a lawn business of my own. This would cut costs. Please let me know as I shall be there in April. Thank you</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cost savings</li> </ul>
<p>I'm not sure of what kind of input you're looking for along the lines of "planning". From my point of view, I deeply appreciate all that those of you in the State Parks system do to keep our parks available, clean and camper friendly.</p> <p>I know that the economy is struggling and budget cuts threaten some of our parks. We have camped at three of the coastal parks in your district, and many others throughout Washington and Oregon. With such diversity, I think it a travesty that any of our parks feel the threat of closure.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>
<p>It is a bad idea to close any parks. All this would do is encourage Washingtonians to travel outside the state to vacation, taking their money with them. I for one, regularly travel to eastern Washington to Wanapum park, merrily spending money on the way, as well as when I am there, in Vantage. If that park were to close, I would just go to Eastern Oregon, and take my money there.</p> <p>Discouraging interstate vacations is a bad idea, only making the state's budget matters worse, by losing tax revenue to other states. Please consider this when making decisions regarding our parks.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
It would be a disaster to close the N. Beach St. Pks as well as Lk Sylvia and Schaffer. Friends Landing runs their pk with volunteers and I'm sure with organization the people must and would get involved. The Rv clubs could be notified and perhaps something could be worked out. This will affect all businesses on the beach. Times have changed and so must volunteers to survive. I vote to do more talking!!	State Parks Budget Reductions - Cost savings
My concerns are general. I feel that the campers and boaters are taking a beating while those that use the parks daily are getting a free ride. I spent my life working and have a camper and am being priced out of state parks so that those that want free things can get all the benefits. Also looking at the list, where are the closure indications for Squak Mountain, Lake Sammamish and others that are located in King County. Is that county exempt from closures?	State Parks Budget Reductions - Revenue generation
My family and I are avid campers - we love WA State Parks! We were heart -broken to hear that some of the parks may be closed including Lake Sylvia which is one of our favorites. My husband and I are more than willing to participate in the process. We know these are trying economic times and we all have to give to make things work. Thank you for asking us for input.	State Parks Budget Reductions - Importance of parks
My husband and I have lived in Ocean Shores, Wa for 33 years, and have always enjoyed the Ocean City State Park. We love to mushroom hunt, and walk our dogs on leash there. We also have many friends and clients who have enjoyed camping there, with their RVs and Motorhomes. These visitors provide infusion of money into the local shops, grocery stores, movie theater, restaurants, and attend local festivals, and like to stay there when they come to dig clams, which is vital to the health of our local economy. Please lobby for all of the state parks in Ocean City and Westport to remain open. Tourism is the main industry in these cities and the availability of state parks near them being open, is crucial to those folks coming to the areas who cannot afford motels, but still have discretionary money to spend supporting the local economies, which creates jobs both in Ocean Shores and Westport! Thanks very much	State Parks Budget Reductions - Importance of parks
Ocean Shores is desperately in need of a draw for tourism. A board walk on the beach would be beneficial for the town as well as the tourists.	State Parks Budget Reductions - Importance of parks
One of the best assets for the City of Ocean Shores is the Ocean City State Park. Located close to the city gates, it is usually full or nearly full during the May through October time period and gives people a chance to camp close to our city. During this economic turndown, nationally as well as locally, we, as a city, need this asset for our businesses. Please keep this park open.	State Parks Budget Reductions - Importance of parks

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
Our family and friends have been going this park for years!!! Clam digging, Easter family weekend, Kite family and friends get together and new years. hope you are not planning to close this park!!!	State Parks Budget Reductions - Importance of parks
<p>Our local newspaper recently reported that Ocean City State Park was on a list for potential mothballing. This would be devastating to our city and the small businesses who depend on our regular visitors, particularly the groups of campers we can always count on during the off peak season. Those visiting Ocean City state park are looking for the whole beach experience. In addition to the camping experience, they spend much time and money in our small adjacent beach town. The camp is a favorite stop for many for the Clam Digs and other special events and festivals. Because they travel through Aberdeen and Hoquiam to get here, the impact is anything but localized.</p> <p>Many of us plan to attend the meeting on the 18th. What else can we do to make sure the impact of this closure gets to those making the decisions? Thanks for your time and consideration.</p>	State Parks Budget Reductions - Importance of parks
Please add my opinion to the "negative" pile concerning shutting down the North Beach Washington State parks- Eliminating these parks would seriously limit spaces available to tourists, which we all know are very essential to the North Beach communities. I strongly urge we try to find alternatives to closing the parks in the Ocean Shores/Westport areas. Thank you for your consideration-	State Parks Budget Reductions - Importance of parks
Please don't close the North Beach Parks. Thank you	State Parks Budget Reductions - Importance of parks
Please keep all the parks open. I am a military disabled veteran, and the NW parks are one of my favorite pastimes. Thanking you in Advance.	State Parks Budget Reductions - Importance of parks

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>Thank you for contacting us. We find it difficult to understand why the state is considering closing such a popular park as Ocean City State Park. We use the park throughout the year, find it a convenient distance from our home and enjoy the camping close to the beach. This is a true jewel for the Washingtonians who cannot travel to Oregon, California or even Hawaii.</p> <p>Not only does the park collect constant camping fees, the city of Ocean Shores enjoys our business. We use the park and city for birding. We buy groceries, gas and kites. We believe it is shortsighted to close down such a well loved park. Perhaps staff hours could be cut across the board instead of keeping salaries as they are and laying off people. Also cuts could be made in other areas of the state budget instead of recreation. Recreation has already been hit hard by budget cuts. Save our Parks!</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>
<p>Thank you for your reply. I've always been a fan of parks, state and national in particular. As a citizen of the state I expect that the park is accessible and relatively low cost (since I feel I've paid taxes in part to support the system). But I'm also completely in favor of paying for use that exceeds just a day hike/picnic.</p> <p>To me that includes possibly raising campground fees, charging for "rescues" even just a charge that's not the whole cost, but enough to make someone think twice about whether they have the skill to do something more ambitious, and asking for suggested donations for things like pamphlets and maps, and possibly trash removal.</p> <p>It allows the majority to still enjoy the basics of a park with no cost, but it expects a slightly higher contribution from the heavier users which seems fair. Programs like the Adopt a Highway one might also serve some parks in allowing them to be "Adopted" by a civic group and reducing the cost off things that take lots of man power on a limited basis like seasonal trail clearing, or pavilion repairs and painting.</p> <p>Those are my thoughts, thanks for listening! Only with some open dialogue can we find solutions that let us all enjoy our parks while minding the budget.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Revenue generation</li> </ul>
<p>The State Park in Ocean Shores is one of many parks that my extended family enjoy several times a year. I have heard that Washington State may be closing it due to budget restraints and it would sadden my whole family if this happens. We enjoy the park no matter what time of year from clam digging in the fall, winter and spring to the just enjoying the beach in the summer time.</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importance of parks</li> </ul>

Verbatim Comments	State Park/Main Issue
<p>We are unable to attend your meeting on March 18, 2009, but would appreciate it very much if you keep us informed on what is discussed. We live in Olympia, and our main interest is that we use the North Beach State Parks mainly in the winter for razor clamming, and winter get-a-ways. We definitely would like the State Parks to remain in public hands and administration. In other words, do not turn them over to a private organization to manage. Thank you,</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Change in operations</li></ul>
<p>We love Ocean City State park and were alarmed when we heard it might be closed. I think this would be a loss to the folks of our state. We live in Kirkland and visit with our 5th wheel as much as possible. it is a wonderful spot and we would hate to see it unavailable. We also make it a point to buy all of our provisions etc. in ocean Shores as we can see that the economy is especially hurt there. We usually spend over \$100 in park fees then another \$250-350 in the local economy on our trips. How can we help?</p>	<p>State Parks Budget Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Importance of parks</li></ul>

## Longer Correspondence

RE: State Parks – Copalis Beach

Dear Mr. Hovis:

Your messages relating to the use of the Copalis Airport have been forwarded to me for comment.

I am an avid aviation enthusiast for both personal and professional reasons. In the professional area I hold a number of FAA ratings and have taught aviation courses both privately and as a Professor of Flight Technology. My professional career has included senior management legal positions with aviation manufacturing companies as well expertise in FAA Certificate Action matters and Aviation Insurance. I have taught both Aviation Law and Aviation Management on the undergraduate and graduate levels and I have worked with aviation accident cases and the evaluation and use of aviation accident databases. I have written extensively in aviation matter including both referred and general aviation articles.

I am familiar with the Copalis Beach Airport and have flown and landed there several times. I am a member of and instructor for Wings Aloft and have participated in the past in flying activities located at Copalis Beach.

In my experience Wings Aloft has always developed its plans for use of the Copalis Beach Airport carefully and with the safety of both those on the ground and those in the air in mind. Those who have been involved in the planning have, in my opinion, been careful to consider the multiple uses of the beach that have developed over the years from the time when the airport was remote and the uplands were not as highly developed as they are now.

Copalis Beach is one of the very few remaining locations in the country where aircraft are permitted to land on the beach. The development of the beach as an airport has a long history and represents a considered decision to allow that usage in conjunction with others while not permitting other types of vehicular traffic. The policy that continues to foster this type of multiple use had been a good one and should not be modified to limit the use of the beach further, particularly where that limitation is for the purpose of enhancing the use by upland landowners since public access to the beach is otherwise already very limited to public users other than those arriving by aircraft or by walking very long distances.

I am not able to attend a meeting tomorrow on the shortness of notice I have received but I will plan to attend the proposed meeting at WSDOT, which is presently scheduled in April.

Thanks you for your consideration and I will be happy to supplement these observations if so requested.

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I understand that there is some level of public and resident discussions occurring in regards to the Copalis Airport. Whenever I learn of any public forum occurring by "concerned citizens" I tend to worry just a bit as I am not sure the citizens of WA. have a good voice at these meetings. I am sure you will continue to inform and educate the public the best you can and resolve any concerns regarding the Copalis airport/airstrip in a way that will take into account the Copalis residents effected and Washington's residents you use it.

My two cents, I believe the Copalis airport/airstrip is and has been a important asset for recreational , police, emergency and local public use Far to many of our WA. public lands are being effected by growth,especially the construction of high cost residential homes. This same complaint and problem has reared it's ugly head elsewhere in the US. 4 wheeling beaches, dunes have been the subject of residential complaints, people don't like skate board parks because they believe they attract problem people, No boats on the lake because of the noise before 10:00 am please, the hit list goes on and on. Where I live, which has some of the most prestine hunting and fishing in the state, often, those who complain the loudest are not life or long time Washington residents, many are transplants who lived the majority of their life and made their fortunes elsewhere. They locate near my town, our beaches and recreational public access properties with the desire to live in peace amongst nature or for other numerous reasons, But far more often these days we have seen even long standing, privately owned airstrips come under attack by those who do not participate in recreational flight activities residents who live near these properties conviently overlook or ignore, "for a time" that their residence is adjoining or built near public recreational property or private property made for recreational use, the concerned residents then seek injunctions, restrictions or total non use of public or private land. It has always been my belief that Individual property rights should be kept within the boundary of one's property lines and not extend out into publicly owned and operated land.

While I do understand the problem and concerns residents face, living near or adjacent to any size airport does have it's own set of unique issues. To rent, buy or build near any kind of airport, public or private, you must expect some level of flying activity, especially when it belongs to the citizens of WA. state. For the most part I believe the pilot community is very respectful of others rights and property and do their best to fly safely and within the regulations and to maintain a good relationship with the residents located near it.

The Copalis residents are not the only ones effected by aircraft, I live out in the country , far from any airport, and 20 miles from the nearest town but everyday about 10:00 am I hear the roar of Jet engines as the Navy pilots fly just a couple hundred feet above and directly over my property practicing very low level training flight missions, these low level flights are ear piercing to me while others do not seem to mind, it causes my animals to panic and it sometimes vibrates the windows of my home. I usually get a return trip by them around 2:00 in the afternoon., as much as this is loud and disruptive to my otherwise country lifestyle, there is quite frankly little to nothing I can do about it, I do not own the airspace over my home and the flying is within FAA rules. My point, most who live along highways, public lands or even in the country as I do have some level of unwelcomed noise or activity we must live with.

Better signage, providing more accessible internet information for pilots "and residents" about pilot use and residential concerns will be far better benefit for everyone involved .

Let US All find a way to co-exist through better information sharing and a better and more tolerant acceptance of everyone's rights and privileges as it concerns both private and public property.

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Thank you for conducting the parks related meeting last night at Ocean Shores. While it probably was not the meeting you intended when you sent out the original notice, it was time well spent nevertheless.

This email is a follow up to comments I made during the meeting.

It is my belief that a good crisis should not be wasted. Times of crisis are also times of opportunity. As several members of the audience pointed out, the need for state parks is greater now than it was during recent easier times. As people work to conserve personal resources, opportunities for economical recreation become critical. Functional state parks are vital, not only to the health and welfare of the people, but also to the economic health of our communities. We need to be looking for ways to enhance the utility of parks, not shutting them down. Further, if reasonable efforts to enhance utility fail, and shutdowns are necessary, much consideration should be given to the impact on local communities.

As I stated at the meeting, there is no “magic bullet”. We need to look at a number of possibilities, and recognize that prudent experimentation is essential. Not every good idea will actually work, and if we refuse to accept failures we will not find success.

Specifically, some of the better suggestions from the audience were:

1. A wider range of usage charges: Premium sites should command premium rates. While few (if any) parks can be sustained entirely by usage charges, they do contribute. Every usage dollar received reduces the need for state funding.
1. More use of volunteers: While state parks already use volunteers, it may be possible to significantly reduce the need for state funding by increased use of volunteers.
2. Contributions: While opportunities for contributing no doubt already exist, they don't seem to be getting a lot of attention. More public emphasis on contributions could be effective, especially if it is emphasized that contributions can be tax deductible (federal).

While it was not discussed at the meeting, there is also the possibility of requesting federal stimulus money for park enhancements. As I am sure you know, we are still using facilities built by the WPA during the FDR administration.

There was some discussion at the meeting about turning parks over to local communities. In my opinion, this is not the best way to approach the problem. What we need is enlightened stewardship from the state parks system. The parks are owned by the people. We are ultimately responsible to provide the resources necessary for their operation, care, and maintenance. The state park system can and should facilitate.

Again, I thank you for conducting the meeting.

Please include me further discussions.

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My wife and I attended the Washington State Parks information/planning meeting held in Ocean Shores on Wednesday, March 19 and while we made many written comments as well as asking many questions the issues raised are of such great importance to us as well as many other citizens we are impelled to respond further. Before continuing we would like to compliment the State Parks staff that was in attendance and responding to both questions and queries, specifically, Brian Hovis, Mike Hangelsen (sp), Steve Brant, Jim Schmidt and Bev (we did not catch her last name) all did a good job of presenting the information in a calm professional manner.

We recognize that the state, along with the nation, are in dire financial straits, but what disturbed us was the lack of forethought being put into creating solutions rather than closing, mothballing or turning parks over to other entities. Both from information shared at the meeting as well as reviewing State Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes we have not identified a positive effort, it seems the only efforts are shut it down!

There are some suggestions that we think merit consideration:

- ☐ **The current state parks “opt in” fee on vehicle licenses could become an “opt out” system and thus generate increased income – Montana successfully does it this way.**
- ☐ **Park fees could be raised or at least raised during peak use times, a 3-5% increase would seem reasonable.**
- ☐ **Offer a State Parks discount card that would feature discounts at area merchants.**

We will not spend a great deal of time here extolling the merits of our state parks system, but suffice it to see we are consistent users as are many of our retired friends. All of whom in hard economic times find the beautiful parks in our state to be wonderful alternatives to more expensive and time consuming getaways.

We will comment on the economic impact that seems to have not been given any consideration as the mothballing recommendations are being made. We live, as you can see, in a community that is tourist oriented – it is Washington States premiere ocean destination. Many people take advantage of both Ocean City and Twin Harbors State Parks; they are also jump off points for many out-of-state travelers heading to Olympic National Park. Closing these parks not only has a direct negative effect on the local economy which also results in reducing state tax collections it will send those seeking an ocean experience to the Oregon State coastal parks and taking their potential revenue with them.

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We live North of Seattle so I don't think that there is any way we can attend the meeting but I do have a few ideas for you. We camp quite a lot during the summer and we love WA state parks. Here are my ideas.

- 1) In Seattle we really enjoy having bonfires on the beach at Carkeek Park and at Golden Gardens. As far as I know (I could be wrong ) there aren't any designated bonfire pits at Ocean Shores. I think It would be a really popular with campers and locals to make a fire on the beach. You should have some designated fire pits and require people to follow the same rules as they do up here on the beach so that it is safe. If you do have designated spots you should make it known more widely.
- 2) I really like that I can book my camping spot online at the state parks web site. I really really wish I could at least check the availability of the group camp sites online. Its a major pain to have to call and I always feel like I am inconveniencing the state parks person (some of them are really cranky). It would be nice If I could do a search for "any group camp site available on XX weekend"
- 3) Your web sites and descriptions of each camp ground are very nice but they need way more photos (especially of the group sites). Usually if I google a park name I can find way better photos then what I see on the state parks web site (usually beautiful landscape photos and photos of the camp sites). I would suggest that you make an interactive user feature where people can upload their own photos from their camping trips. Amazon.com does this for their products and now when I am looking at buying something not only is their an official product picture often times there is also a user submitted photo. I think this would be a very popular user feature. And if you set it up like craigs list where users could report inappropriate content and you wouldn't even have to police it. I am sure that there are already web applications that do this sort of thing and it wouldn't be hard to add it to the state parks website. Maybe also consider allowing users to post comments about the park and campgrounds on the web site, I would love to be able to read other campers comments and suggestions. So I guess I would summarize this up by saying "More user interactive web site please" . If you want to get really pro active about it have someone create an iphone app for the state parks that allows you to book your site, write and read reviews, and post photos all from your cell phone.
- 4) We love those Educational talks you have. Please post the times and lecture topics online. Most of the parks I have been to have evening lectures or kids scavenger hunts or even church on Sundays. We love these things and would love to get info about them ahead of time. It would be cool if you published the summer schedule online or even set it up to email you the schedule automatically when booked a site at that campground.
- 5) shower tokens! - I realize that you had to switch to tokens because people were breaking into the quarter machine but it seems like now it's hard to get the tokens because the office has to be open. Maybe you could work a deal with local businesses to sell the tokens for you and then you could post a sign that said "shower tokens also available at XXX store". It seems like the stores would readily do it because it would increase traffic into their store.

Over all we really love WA state parks, they are clean, people are polite, and we always have a great time - Thanks for doing such a great job!

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In re: North Beach area state parks: Pacific Beach State Park

Subject: My Suggestions or Comments Related to Pacific Beach State Park

Preface. First, I find this public input to planning might not be a genuine 'Citizens' request for public input because I have known for some time the Pacific Beach State Park ranger station building was to be re-constructed, State Parks issued cell-phones taken away from volunteer Pacific Beach State Park campground hosts, and State Parks employees have already been fired that have supported these North Beach areas State Parks areas; as a result, I would suggest that State Parks first publish for 'Citizens' understanding just-what State Parks already have in-the-works for each of these North Beach area State Parks before asking for 'Citizens' inputs; for example, just what the 'Citizens' that use these State Parks would like to see done different or suggestions to improve what the 'Citizens' observe.

Some of my past thoughts about State Parks and operating budget just a little short can be found at "Right now: Just who is protecting all of our 'Taxpayers' State Parks today for 'Taxpayers' tomorrows?" [REDACTED]

My Pacific Beach State Park "Citizen's park improvement suggestions are these:

(1) Since many of the Pacific Beach Park RV's paved camping sites are sinking; as a result, during and after rain storms many of the RV sites have rain water puddles because of the land topography RV paved site elevations that have sunk, so campers are wading in water. therefore a simple solution suggestion would be regrade the entire park topography for all campground roads and RV campsites; it follows, fix the road and site water ponding problems within the entire camping area and around the south restroom building paved access paths; but

(2) Since the expense to re-do the entire campground and roads topography elevations and surfacewater and stormwater drains systems necessary; it follows, a more cost effective suggestion would be to install freeze protected water faucet and wastewater RV connection at every RV camping site location because it just makes sense when the entire campground is in the process of having its camping and roads topography elevations fixed; as a result, the ideal opportunity for new utility services and upgrade the remaining RV sites from 30- to 30 & 50-Amp RV electrical service, year round usable potable water supply, and wastewater connection at each RV site;

(3) And, from memory I understand that a new Pacific Beach Park Ranger Building is considered for replacement of the existing ranger station building;

(4) Add a land-line analog telephone line (WA State Parks telephone line with local call use only like 911 access use) with jack located at the camp host RV site because this would replace the former State Parks cell phones taken out of service for money savings and State Parks could loan a land-line telephone instrument to the current park's camp host for use during their park stay and it would plug into the local telephone line jack at the RV site; and

(5) Add concrete stairs from campground to river beach at south end of camping area (by the tent site); as a result, people would not be required to traverse rocks and possible slip-and-fall hazard.

I hope these suggestions will help for a better and safer Pacific Beach State Park if done.

Have a good day,

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